



Daily Report

Sub-Saharan Africa

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Monday
29 March 1993

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Somali Reconciliation Conference Concludes

Factions Agree on Interim Government, Treaty

*AB2803194893 London BBC World Service in English
1705 GMT 28 Mar 93*

[From the "Focus on Africa" program]

[Text] At long last the 15 Somali groups at the peace conference in Addis Ababa sat down late last night and signed a peace treaty for their shattered and demoralized country. The United Nations and the Ethiopian Government cajoled them throughout the whole conference which lasted for nearly two weeks, telling the assembled delegates that this was their last chance to work out a constructive plan to put their country together and provide a framework for central authority and government instead of the violence and disorder, which have gripped the country for the last two years. Abraham Seseha in Addis Ababa has been looking at the details of the treaty and he telexed this report:

[Begin studio announcer recording] After 12 days of wrangling, the 15 factions have signed an agreement to form a Transitional National Council, or TNC, to govern the country for the next two years. The Council will have 74 seats; each of the 15 factions will be represented by a delegate to the council, and each of the country's 18 regions will send three elected representatives, one of whom has to be a woman. Mogadishu will be represented by Ali Mahdi and four others who are still to be elected by the clans and factions within the city.

The TNC will be the prime political authority in Somalia. It will carry out the functions of a legislative council during the transition, and it will also appoint officials, establish an independent judiciary, and interact with the international community, including UNOSOM [UN Operation in Somalia]. The agreement also provides for the formation of elected regional and district councils with the power to administer their respective regions. Ali Mahdi has described the agreement as a victory for the Somali people, while his rival General Aidid has welcomed it in a speech at the end of the conference, saying that Somalis will never again commit the mistakes of the past.

Delegates and observers at the conference have received the agreement with mixed feelings. Some say that the TNC will be too faction-based because the country's 18 regions are still closely tied to the warlords. [end recording]

Aidid Addresses Conference

*EA2803202293 Mogadishu Radio Mogadishu in Somali
1700 GMT 28 Mar 93*

[Excerpts] The chairman of the Somali National Alliance [SNA] and USC [United Somali Congress], Mr. Mohamed Farah Aidid, today spoke at a ceremony marking the conclusion of the Somali national reconciliation conference in Addis Ababa. [passage omitted]

Chairman Aidid, on behalf of all Somali groups attending the conference, thanked President of Ethiopia Meles Zenawi, who had played an important role at the conference. [passage omitted]

Mr. Aidid stated that the historic agreement reached by the Somali groups was the first step toward a lasting solution that would form the foundation for the restoration of Somalia's dignity and solidarity. For this reason, he said, it is our duty to continue the efforts to implement the landmark decisions made at the African Economic Committee Hall in Addis Ababa on 27 March. Chairman Aidid said that history had shown that many parts of the world had faced problems similar to Somalia's, but the peoples affected had met and reached lasting solutions.

The chairman declared that by reaching our historic agreement, we have indicated that we can surmount our differences, contrary to the expectations of many. Mr. Aidid went on to say that there are still many problems that needed to be resolved with constant courage, cooperation, mutual respect, and consultation, since we have reached a new era that promised the Somali people lasting peace. The chairman pointed out that it was their duty to deliver to the Somali people the agreement which had been reached and to encourage them to take part in its implementation, adding that he was confident that the Somali people would welcome the resolutions adopted in the agreement.

Mr. Aidid said that the groups which signed the agreement were assuring the Somali people that Somalia would never again experience the hardships of the past, adding that God should be thanked for delivering from disaster, darkness, and war. The agreement reached in Addis Ababa consisted of four articles: the formation of an interim national council, regional council, and district council and central administration of institutions.

The chairman said the most important article was the formation of an interim national council, which was designed to restore the dignity of the Somali people and to restore general services to the country. He pointed out that he was confident that members of that council would shoulder their responsibilities with dignity. [passage omitted]

He appealed to international organizations to offer assistance to implement the agreement. He also called on the Somali people to take an active part in the reconstruction and restoration of peace in the country. Mr. Aidid further appealed to Somalis living outside the country to return home and take part in the new Somalia built on peace, justice, equality, democracy, and prosperity.

Rwanda

CDR Withdraws From Presidential Alliance

AB2803132593 Paris AFP in French 1203 GMT
28 Mar 93

[Text] Kigali, 28 Mar (AFP)—The Coalition for the Defense of the Republic (CDR, party that claims to defend the interests of the Hutu tribe), hostile to the policy of sharing power with the rebels, has left the Alliance for the Reinforcement of Democracy [ARD], according to a reliable source.

The ARD is composed of five parties, including President Juvenal Habyarimana's Republican National Movement for Democracy and Development (MRND, former single party).

The CDR accuses the MRND of endorsing the accords signed in Arusha, Tanzania, on sharing power with the rebels, and allowing them to be members of the Rwandan Patriotic Front [FRP] in a broadbased transition government.

The ARD claims to be a rival of the Democratic Forces for Change, which includes opposition parties that are members of Prime Minister Dismas Nsengiyaremye's government.

The agreements on the sharing of power were contested by the MRND and the CDR last January because the CDR wanted to be part of the future government.

This discontent led to demonstrations that degenerated into violence with a death toll of 300 in northwest Rwanda.

MRND Secretary General on 'Defection'

EA2903071893 Kigali Radiodiffusion Nationale de la
Republique Rwandaise in French 1115 GMT 28 Mar 93

[Text] The Coalition for the Defense of the Republic [CDR] on 27 March announced its withdrawal from the Alliance for the Reinforcement of Democracy [ARD]. As well as the CDR, which has just pulled out, the Alliance also comprises the Party for Democracy in Rwanda, Ecologists' Party, Rwandan Republican Party, and the Republican National Movement for Democracy and Development [MRND]. The latter's secretary general, Mathieu Ndirumutse, was joined on the phone by Ephraim Rugiririza. Here he gives his reaction to the CDR defection; I suggest you listen to him:

[Begin recording] [Rugiririza] Don't you think that the CDR's withdrawal could weaken your alliance, and even your party?

[Ndirumutse] Well, weaken the alliance, sure. When a member leaves an alliance it is always a set-back. But saying that our party would be weakened, no I do not think so. It is their right to leave the alliance, but we

believe that we will not be weakened. On the contrary we might even become stronger, despite what people might think.

[Rugiririza] One of the reasons for leaving given by the CDR was notably that at the level of the MRND you had given your blessings to the draft agreement on power-sharing. The CDR also accuse you, the MRND, of being behind the massacres perpetrated against the Bagogwe. What do you say to that?

[Ndirumutse] First, as regards the consent given to the Arusha protocol, I would like to tell you that the party has not issued any statement on the Arusha accord. Let us say that if the president of the Republic and the prime minister signed a joint communique on the matter, the president of the Republic is not the president of the party. But there is no party organ that has issued any statement on the matter.

[Rugiririza] So, if I understand you, at the MRND level, you do not subscribe to the content of the joint communique signed in Arusha by the president and the prime minister?

[Ndirumutse] That is not what I said. Let us say that we have not issued any official statement on the matter. So the CDR cannot act on the basis of statements made by the president of the Republic and the prime minister which accuse us of everything, even of things which we have not yet studied. So far we have not yet had the opportunity to take a position on the matter. Now, as regards the accusation about massacres, I think that, as regards this question, everyone is looking for a scapegoat. As you know, our ideology is based on peace and unity.

We have never said that there have never been mistakes by some individuals. But we have asked the judiciary to prosecute them. But the CDR cannot wash its hands to our detriment, for its ideology and statements are [word indistinct] at ethnic levels. You will recall that in the Bugesera affair, the CDR handled the court case of all the imprisoned people accused of having chased away Tutsis from Bugesera at the time they claimed that chasing away the Tutsis from Bugesera was not a crime. Now is not the time to look for scapegoats.

We have condemned the abuses in Gisenyi and Ruhengeri, at least in part of Ruhengeri, and we asked that the judiciary look into the matter and prosecute the perpetrators of the crimes. As we do not have control over the judiciary we just think that it is unfortunate that so far nothing has been done. But our position is sincere. We want those people who got involved in the problems to be prosecuted.

[Rugiririza] Do you agree with those who claim that the CDR makes inciting statements, notably at ethnic levels?

[Ndirumutse] We are not asserting that. This is the reality of their statements. And I do not think that this is the time for them to look for scapegoats, to exonerate

themselves. In any case, even in politics, alliances are an opportune thing, we have never accepted the rejection of one part of society. [end recording]

Zaire

Mobutu Security Adviser on Birindwa Efforts

AB2803122093 Kinshasa Tele-Zaire Television Network in French 1900 GMT 27 Mar 93

[Text] We open this news bulletin with the activities of Faustin Birindwa, prime minister-designate in charge of forming the broad-based national union government, who held discussions on 26 March with representatives of political organizations. He assured them that he would scrupulously stick to the objective criteria defined for appointing various government members. Mr. Birindwa decided—before he confers with the head of state on the final list of members of the broad-based government of national union and public salvation—to organize this meeting to harmonize viewpoints with the active forces from which members of the government team will be drawn.

Concerning this government, whose announcement is eagerly awaited, this is what Mr. Mbanda Zambo Kwatumba, the head of state's special security adviser, said as he explained why the prime minister's appointments are taking time:

[Begin recording] [Kwatumba] I think people must understand right away the sincerity of President Mobutu's statement. The president said in his speech that the government emerging from the conclave will be a really responsible government, and he has already moved from words to action. He leaves to the prime minister the option and latitude to conduct his consultations seriously, according to his own pace, and as soon

as Prime Minister Birindwa tells the head of state—even if he does so today—that he is ready, the head of state will receive him and after that the government will be announced, but it is not the president who should form the government. That is the duty of the prime minister and, like you, I have been following the consultations he has been conducting throughout the week. He is working resolutely, and it is he who will give the head of state a sign that he is ready and, at that point, the head of state will receive him and from their discussions a government will emerge.

[Reporter] Mr. Birindwa, however, has already run into problems because there is already a government recognized by the High Council of the Republic. Are you aware of that?

[Kwatumba] Yes, I am aware, and...

[Reporter, interrupting] And what do you say about that?

[Kwatumba] Well, my dear friend, I think our people have already suffered a lot and I do not believe that the Zairian people are interested in the antics of politicians. The Zairian people now need a government which can really govern and has what we call imperium in law—a government which has supreme authority. The head of state, after the conclusions of the conclave, unequivocally pledged that he would give a free hand to the government that emerged and which is now being formed by Mr. Birindwa. This government will be formed. I hope Mr. Birindwa will be able to do it, and I trust that through his skill and open-mindedness this government will bring together the sons and daughters of this country and that it will implement the conclave's program and recommendations, that is, it will restore the authority of the state, guarantee [words indistinct]. [end recording]

Ethiopia

Sudanese Plane Crashes in Welega Province 23 Mar

AB2503144093 Dakar PANA in English 1353 GMT
25 Mar 93

[Text] Addis Ababa, 25 March (PANA)—All the 35 passengers and crew of a Sudan Airwest aircraft which crashed in western Ethiopia Tuesday [23 March], were brought to Addis Ababa Wednesday [24 March] from the scene of the accident.

Twelve passengers were injured in the crash near the town of Shambu, in the western Ethiopia province of Welega, 250 kilometers from Addis Ababa.

Five of the passengers who sustained slight injuries were discharged from the hospital on Thursday while another five persons are undergoing treatment. The Fokker 27 aircraft was flying home a Sudanese football team from Dar es Salaam when it lost its way over Western Ethiopia and asked for landing permission at Addis Ababa's Bole airport.

Ethiopian civil aviation authority said the pilot of the aircraft had informed the Bole control tower at noon (0900 GMT) that the plane had fuel for only 30 minutes and needed refueling in Addis Ababa.

Contact with the plane was lost 20 minutes later.

A search party, involving two light aircraft from the Ethiopian airlines and helicopters of the Ethiopian airforce, spotted the Fokker late Tuesday at Haretie, near Shambu town.

Sudanese Military Delegation Arrives in Eritrea

EA2703184093 Asmara Voice of the Broad Masses of
Eritrea in Amharic 1500 GMT 27 Mar 93

[Excerpt] A Sudanese Government delegation arrived in Asmara on 26 March for a working visit to Eritrea. The delegation, led by Brigadier General Hasan 'Abd-

al-Rahman, deputy commander of the Sudanese Army, includes Brig. Gen. Afesas Muhammad Ahmad Eliu, deputy minister, and Brig. Gen. Muhammad Ahmad Mustafa Adi, head of military security. They arrived in Asmara at 1730 yesterday. [passage omitted]

Kenya

Finance Minister Clarifies Intentions With IMF, World Bank

EA2603215293 Nairobi Kenya Broadcasting
Corporation Network in English 1800 GMT 26 Mar 93

[Text] The minister for finance, Mr. Musalia Mudavadi, has clarified that the government action of the 23rd March this year to stabilize the exchange rate and price through the abolition of the trade and foreign exchange system introduced by the IMF was to enhance the management of the economy, which the system was leading to ruins.

In a signed statement to KBC, the minister said the action of the government was intended to save the economy from collapse and to alleviate the suffering of the majority of Kenyans, adding that it was not intended to result in a break with the IMF or the World Bank. He said the government is still continuing the dialogue with the two institutions and other donors, but on the basis of more rational and sustainable measures.

The minister dismissed a section of local and foreign press allegations of foreign exchange fraud, saying the government is not aware of such fraud and that such allegations were designed to discredit the country on the grounds of perceived corruption. The full concept [as heard] of the statement will be read after the news bulletin.

De Klerk Delivers 'Sharp Attack' on ANC Organization

*MB2703170693 Johannesburg Radio South Africa
Network in English 1600 GMT 27 Mar 93*

[Text] The state president has said in an exceptionally sharp attack on the ANC [African National Congress] that the organization remains a radical party which does not exercise sufficient discipline on its supporters when it comes to intimidation and violence. Speaking at a National Party rally in Goodwood, Cape Town, President de Klerk said that the ANC, as he put it, was bad news for ordinary, hard-working South Africans and did not have the courage to distance itself from communism. The organization continued to rob South Africans of work by its support for sanctions and mass action and did not take a clear enough stand against rent and school boycotts. President de Klerk said that, at the same time, the Conservative Party was becoming increasingly irrelevant. He added that unless the Pan-Africanist Congress changed its tune it would have no place in a peaceful, democratic process.

Urges Voters To Cut Party 'Down to Size'

*MB2703200593 Johannesburg SABA in English 1933
GMT 27 Mar 93*

[By Charl de Villiers]

[Text] Cape Town March 27 SABA—South African voters had the power to cut the African National Congress [ANC] down to size in the coming fully democratic election, State President FW de Klerk said on Saturday [27 March].

Addressing a predominantly coloured NP [National Party] rally at the Goodwood showgrounds, near Cape Town, he said he was proud to lead a party which had declared war on racism and discrimination.

At least 70 buses were used to bring people to the rally—several from Bolland towns such as Ceres, Montagu, Worcester and Paarl.

A large part of the crowd consisted of children. Traditional Malay and pipe bands entertained the crowd which yelled appreciatively when orange white and blue balloons were released and Education and Culture Minister Abe Williams announced Miss NP Cape as the winner of the intra party beauty pageant.

"The NP and I now see it as our duty to gather together all South Africans who belong together out of inner conviction," Mr. de Klerk said.

"Our challenge is to keep the National Party a winner. A strong National Party is humanely speaking your best guarantee for the future."

In the NP's first major pre-election incursion into Cape Town's coloured community in recent months, Mr. de Klerk said the NP had gone through a period of intense soul-searching, cleansing itself from that which was morally indefensible.

While good progress was being made with multi-party negotiations and re-entering international politics, things could nonetheless still go wrong.

Political violence had to be stopped for once and for all—through intensified security force action and the ongoing negotiations process.

"You can rest assured that the government will not allow itself to be blackmailed as some parties are now trying to do. We have reached the moment of truth regarding political violence. It has to end."

Looking at the NP's political opponents it was understandable, he said, why the NP was the best electoral option for moderate and God-fearing South Africans.

The ANC, "bad news for the ordinary working South African", did not have the courage to break with Communism.

It robbed South Africans of jobs by supporting sanctions, mass action, stayaways and strikes.

Unless the ANC changed itself quickly it remained a radical party. "It must be cut down to size in the coming fully democratic election. The voters of South Africa have the power to do so," Mr. de Klerk said.

While he realised that ANC leader Nelson Mandela faced a difficult task regarding mass protests, Mr. de Klerk said he believed the ANC did not take a clear enough stand against these actions.

"Instead they very often come across as sympathetic to these damaging campaigns and the people who organise them."

The ANC also failed to sufficiently discipline their followers when it came to violence and intimidation.

The IFP [Inkatha Freedom Party] and the DP [Democratic Party] were much closer to the new NP. He found it strange however that they spent so much energy fighting the NP.

"Are they afraid of politically tackling the ANC as the National Party is doing?"

The IFP was too sectional to make a real impact in the western Cape while the DP—"a real rich man's party" had no real understanding of the needs of average South Africans, Mr. de Klerk said.

"The DP did not grow as did the NP from a history of standing up against oppression and poverty."

The Labour Party, in turn, was disintegrating because it had chosen a junior position in the so-called Patriotic Front.

The PAC [Pan-Africanist Congress] with its black power approach and adherence to violence will have no place in a peaceful democratic process unless it changed soon.

If the CP [Conservative Party] did not reform itself it would end up in a dangerous slide to violence and disappear from the democratic scene. It did not have a workable solution for South Africa.

"Our most important goal is not to fight other parties. The NP will concentrate on fighting for South Africa and the interests of all its people," Mr. de Klerk said.

Mandela: Government Forces Responsible for Violence

MB2703100893 Johannesburg SAPA in English 0942 GMT 27 Mar 93

[Text] Johannesburg March 27 SAPA—Government forces trying to undermine negotiations are responsible for "the violence gripping our country", African National Congress [ANC] President Nelson Mandela said on Saturday [27 March].

"There can be no doubt about who the main culprits are. Those who instituted a policy that decreed others sub-humans in their land of birth could not but rely on violence to maintain their vile system.

"Those who gave orders for the 'permanent removal' of opponents of apartheid showed their hand then and have been exposed to rely on this strategy now.

"Those who manufactured nuclear bombs to kill in defence of apartheid cannot be expected to act with compunction when their power is threatened."

Addressing the Broad Patriotic Front conference in Lenasia, south-west of Johannesburg, Mr Mandela said some of these forces wished to delay negotiations while others wanted to derail the process. "For some of them, destabilisation and civil war are preferable to loss of privilege.

"South Africans—both black and white—are not safe in the midst of these forces. For they (the forces) shall go to any length to subvert successful negotiations.

"They will seek to use all kinds of forces, even from among the oppressed, to realise their shameful objectives."

The ANC leader emphasised that political organisations had to promote peace and tolerance.

"They must ensure that their members do not act in a manner that undermines these principles (of democracy). They must scrupulously avoid the danger of their structures and members being used by the angels of death."

He stressed that to end violence, negotiations should be speedily concluded so interim structures could be established to ensure the joint control of all armies.

"The most certain antidote to violence and other ills ravaging our country will be the election of representatives of the people to draft a new constitution and set up democratic government.

"Negotiations must be speedily concluded and transitional structures set up to ensure, among others, the joint control of all armed formations."

Mr Mandela suggested the government's recently announced steps to counter violence were not the solution. "Beefing up the brute force of a discredited security apparatus is not the answer.

"Resorting to draconian security measures of an illegitimate regime only helps to conceal the hand of the main culprit and to foment the deep divisions within society."

AEC, Armscor Deny Cannons Could Fire Nuclear Devices

MB2603194793 Johannesburg SAPA in English 1819 GMT 26 Mar 93

[Text] Pretoria March 26 SAPA—The Atomic Energy Corporation [AEC] and Armscor [Armaments Corporation of South Africa] on Friday [26 March] dismissed speculation that atomic bombs produced by South Africa could have been fired by G5 cannons in battle-field situations.

In a joint statement, AEC and Armscor said the six "cannon-type" nuclear devices completed between 1980 and 1989 each weighed about one ton, measuring nearly 650mm in diameter and about 1.8m in length. "Therefore, it could never have been used in an artillery system like the G5 as is speculated."

A newspaper report on Friday claimed South Africa had possessed smaller nuclear devices which could have been lobbed with the G5 and G6 cannons up to 42km into enemy territory.

It was also reported the country manufactured nuclear "smart bombs" able to fly themselves to pinpoint targets.

The AEC and Armscor statement did not react to this.

It said the calculated yield of each of the six manufactured nuclear bombs was meant to have been about 10 to 18 kilotons TNT equivalent, but was never verified as no atmospheric or underground nuclear tests were ever conducted.

High enriched uranium was used for the bombs and produced by the AEC at its uranium enrichment pilot plant at Pelindaba, in the western Transvaal.

The AEC declined to divulge the quantity and enrichment level of the nuclear material used, claiming it would not be in the interest of security and of non-proliferation.

The statement said the nuclear bombs were developed without help "of any kind" from other countries.

"The first device was completed by Armscor in 1980 and the two parts of the device each containing a sub-critical mass of nuclear material were stored in separate high security vaults under strict control measures entailing three independent access authorisations.

"During 1981-89 a further five devices were produced. The AEC's pilot enrichment plant was shut down in February 1990 at which time sufficient high enriched uranium was produced and supplied to Armscor for the production of the seventh and final device."

The statement said State President F W de Klerk in November 1989 instructed the dismantling of the nuclear capabilities in preparation for South Africa's accession to the Non-Proliferation Treaty (NPT). "The seventh bomb was therefore never completed."

The devices were dismantled in order to remove the nuclear material, which was melted and recast "in a form which renders it unsuitable for use in a nuclear device".

The recast enriched uranium was returned to the AEC before the safeguards agreement was entered into on September 16, 1991.

It was presently stored at Pelindaba in vaults complying with applicable international standards, the AEC and Armscor said.

All the nuclear material stored was included in an inventory submitted to the international nuclear watchdog, the International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA), and was being inspected by IAEA staff each month and subject to IAEA safeguards, the statement added.

"The facilities in which the nuclear material was processed were slightly contaminated with uranium and had to be decontaminated. All nuclear specific apparatus was sent to the AEC for further decontamination and safe disposal. The areas where the nuclear material was processed were dismantled and contaminated non-nuclear materials disposed of by the AEC.

"All general and non-nuclear equipment are at present being used for the manufacture of peaceful and commercial products."

All documents, drawings, computer software and other data used in the manufacture of the atomic bombs were destroyed. The whole dismantling process was monitored by an independent auditor, Prof W L Mouton, who was appointed by the state president.

The statement said an underground nuclear test site on the South African Defence Force's Vastrap target range near Upington in the northern Cape was never used and abandoned in 1989.

The site consisted of two 200m deep, one metre wide test shafts.

Though no mention is made in the statement of when the shafts were drilled, it is stated that they were initially sealed with concrete slabs and abandoned in 1977 due to international pressure.

Ten years later, at the time of heavy battles in Angola, South Africa reopened one of the shafts and erected a hangar over it "for easy maintenance in case of an underground test".

AEC and Armscor said it was decided after 1989 not to fill-in the shafts due to the costs involved.

"However, if recommended by the IAEA, South Africa would destroy the shafts completely. The site was visited by IAEA staff during 1992."

Article Views 'Real Reasons' for Nuclear Program

MB2603175693 Johannesburg THE WEEKLY MAIL
in English 26 Mar-1 Apr 93 pp 3, 5

[Report by Stephan Laufer and Arthur Gavshon: "The Real Reasons for South Africa's Nukes"]

[Text] President FW de Klerk hid more than he revealed when informing parliament this week of South Africa's nuclear weapons capability.

Sources intimate with the country's A-bomb programme have told THE WEEKLY MAIL that South Africa's nuclear weapons capability was "on the technological cutting edge internationally". The programme gave the South African Defence Force a huge destructive potential.

And the programme cost vastly more than has thus far been officially revealed. Professor Renfrew Christie, Dean of Research at the University of the Western Cape, estimates that the apartheid A-bomb cost South African taxpayers R[Rand]8-billion, more than 10 times the R700-million to R800-million figure given by De Klerk. Christie would know—he was sentenced to 10 years in jail in 1980 for passing South African nuclear secrets to the African National Congress [ANC].

Speaking in Washington, a senior American official said: "The South African statement obviously is welcome as far as it goes but we have not necessarily heard the whole story of its nuclear weapons activities."

South Africa possessed nuclear "smart bombs" able to fly themselves to pinpoint targets in a manner similar to the conventional bombs used by US forces in the Gulf war.

The SADF [South African Defence Force] was also in possession of smaller nuclear devices which could have been used in battlefield situations. "This was probably the real motivation for spending so much money on developing the G5 and G6 cannon," said Christie. The

G5 and G6 would have allowed artillery gunners to lob a small two kiloton nuclear warhead up to 42km into enemy territory, causing massive destruction while limiting damage to the South African side.

Speaking on condition of strict anonymity, another expert told THE WEEKLY MAIL "the size and sophistication of the South African devices was such that they could have been packed in a satchel and taken anywhere". The international community has long been perturbed at the existence of such "backpack bombs" because of their terrorist potential.

And while De Klerk told parliament that the decision to build A-bombs had been taken in 1974, it is clear that nuclear weapons research was started in earnest in South Africa as early as the 1950s. Documents dating back to the Strydom era show research into the military implications of a nuclear capability, and assessments of the resources required were made in the 1960s.

One of the more bizarre research programmes related to the creation of a nuclear weapons capability emerged at Christie's trial in 1980. It involved an analysis of the potential use of nuclear explosions for engineering purposes such as major earth movement for dam building, an activity classified internationally at the time as a peaceful use of nuclear power. But the South African study had concentrated on assessing potential effects of nuclear engineering explosions in "black" areas of the country.

De Klerk told parliament that South Africa had developed its nuclear weapons capability without outside help. No so, say the experts. Germany, France, Canada and the United States—and perhaps others—assisted at one stage or another. And the double flash registered in the South Atlantic in 1979 by American spy satellites was probably an Israeli nuclear test, conducted with the help of the South Africans, says French expert Marie-Helen Labbe. The South Africans will have shared in the test results.

Hoping for a reliable supply of enriched uranium for their nuclear power plants, and intent on testing new technologies, the Germans provided key technology for the pilot uranium enrichment plant built in South Africa in 1975, according to Barbara Rogers and Zdenek Servenka in their book on nuclear co-operation between the two countries.

The US, a customer for South African uranium since the mid-1940s and keen to enhance its edge in the nuclear arms race with the Soviets, built South Africa's first research reactor, Safari 1, say the authors. It also trained South African nuclear scientists.

Asked why De Klerk had chosen to spill the beans now, diplomatic sources in Washington said it was probably a pre-emptive strike aimed at damage control. De Klerk and Foreign Minister Pik Botha were keen to prevent

divulgence of South Africa's true nuclear capability, including the advanced nature of the arsenal, by the US State Department.

Secretary of State Warren Christopher, it appears, indicated to Botha last week in Washington his intention to make public South Africa's standing as a nuclear power if Pretoria did not do so itself. The government's prompt response, says Professor Jac Spence, of the Royal Institute of International Affairs, can be seen as a "signal of good intentions to the new Clinton administration, which is concerned about nuclear proliferation".

IAEA Team to Verify Nuclear Bombs Destruction

LD2503163293 Berlin ADN in German 1359 GMT
25 Mar 93

[Excerpt] Leipzig (ADN)—South Africa has invited the International Atomic Energy Agency to verify the destruction of six nuclear bombs. IAEA spokesman Hans-Friedrich Meyer revealed this to Central German Radio today. A group of experts will go to South Africa "to get a clear picture" and "to trace the history of destruction." Meyer said that his organization had known that there was "a great deal of highly enriched uranium, thus bomb material" there, "but we were surprised that the bombs were complete." [passage omitted]

Dismantler of Nuclear Arsenal Interviewed

MB2803114293 Johannesburg SUNDAY STAR in English 28 Mar 93 p 26

[By David Breier, political correspondent]

[Text] "I felt very small standing in front of those devices knowing each of them could destroy a city," says Wynand Mouton.

He was the trusted man appointed by President F W de Klerk to oversee the dismantling of South Africa's secret nuclear "devices"—which could have been deployed as atomic bombs at short notice.

Mouton (64), who was chairman of the SABC [South African Broadcasting Corporation] board in the early 1980s, is a nuclear physicist with years of academic experience in nuclear science at the universities of the Witwatersrand and Stellenbosch.

He now lives in semi-retirement in Wilderness, where his neighbour is none other than ex-President P W Botha, who played a key role in the development of our nuclear arsenal.

Botha was the gung-ho Minister of Defence in 1974 in the Vorster government which took the secret decision to become a nuclear power. The nuclear weapons programme was largely developed after Botha assumed power in 1978.

Botha retired to Wilderness after he lost power in 1989. He often meets and chats with his neighbour Mouton, who also chose the beautiful area as his retirement home.

But little did the ex-president know during those peaceful chats in 1990 and 1991 that Mouton was secretly overseeing the hush-hush dismantling of the bombs that Botha built.

"We see each other often, but I never talked about it," Mouton told the SUNDAY STAR this week. He reported exclusively to De Klerk.

What the retired "groot krokodil" [great crocodile] did not know was that his neighbour was paying frequent visits to Pelindaba, west of Pretoria, to oversee and check on the incredibly complex process of dismantling the bombs, conducted by a tightly-knit team of a "few dozen" scientists. This took 18 months.

Mouton confesses that despite his years of experience as nuclear physicist, he was humbled by the experience. "I was more a basic scientist. This was applied nuclear physics."

Mouton was used to working with small reactors like the one at Wits [Witwatersrand], but had never been in the presence of weapons-grade uranium encased in the shiny cigar-shaped "bombs".

"I shivered when I stood in front of them and realised their power," he said.

He said each bomb was comparable to the one that destroyed Hiroshima—small by super-power H-bomb standards, but big enough to destroy the likes of Johannesburg.

Without disclosing secrets, Mouton described the unbelievably difficult internationally prescribed process of melting down the highly enriched uranium which is as heavy as gold. The uranium oxidises quickly and therefore must not come into contact with air. It is coated with nickel for much of the process.

The uranium is smelted into small blocks weighing a "couple of kilograms" each. This must be done with tremendous care to ensure it does not set off any chain reaction.

The small blocks of uranium were then stored in extremely secure conditions at Pelindaba. The rest of the hardware and blueprints were destroyed.

Mouton said that all the documents he saw indicated that the devices were never intended for actual use, but rather to enable South Africa to "flex its muscles" if threatened.

This confirms De Klerk's statement that the strategy was that if South Africa was under threat by the Soviet Union for example, it would carry out an underground test, inform a power such as the United States and ask them to intervene in the conflict.

Holomisa Warns Government Against Ending Independence

MB2803141293 Johannesburg SAPA in English 1353
GMT 28 Mar 93

[Text] Umtata Mar 28 SAPA—Any plan to terminate the independence of Transkei would mean "the end of the road" for the Nationalist government, General Bantu Holomisa warned on Sunday [28 March].

He was responding to an article in the SUNDAY TIMES which said President de Klerk was considering taking over the administrations of Transkei, Ciskei and Venda after demands from within his party to adopt tougher tactics with Transkei.

Transkei was found to be the base of the Azanian People's Liberation Army—the armed wing of the Pan Africanist Congress—by the Goldstone Commission last week.

Gen Holomisa said violence addressed in the context of South African politics should encompass state violence as well.

He said Mr. Justice Richard Goldstone's recommendations that the international community be encouraged to put pressure on Transkei were to be rejected.

"... The wishful thinking of Mr. Goldstone who wants to pressurise other political parties, while others are given a licence to kill is to be rejected," the general said.

He said there was a "veil of secrecy" surrounding President de Klerk's terminating the duties of certain security officers.

He claimed dismissal of such officers would lead to more cans of worms being opened.

At a Patriotic Front conference on Saturday he suggested the multi-party negotiating forum appoint a technical committee, chaired by the Organisation of African Unity or United Nations to look into violence plaguing the country.

He said two types of violence needed to be addressed: state violence as well as one involving the liberation movements.

"The solution arrived must be linked to political settlement with time frames. No unilateral approach by any party will succeed," General Holomisa said.

White Wolves Allegedly Hold APLA Member in Captivity

MB2603120693 Johannesburg SAPA in English 1154
GMT 26 Mar 93

[By Norman Patterson]

[Text] Pretoria Mar 26 SAPA—Police are to interview Wit Wolwe [White Wolves] Leader Barend Strydom over claims that members of his ultra-rightwing group have held an Azanian People's Liberation Army [APLA] member in captivity for more than a month.

The Wit Wolwe, who had linked a man identified only as Samuel to terror activities in the eastern Cape, had planned to "court-martial" the alleged APLA member on April 15 after he had pointed out arms caches to his captors, Mr Strydom said on Friday [26 March].

Observers expressed their reservations about the veracity of these claims, but Law and Order Ministry Spokesman Capt Craig Kotze said police would nevertheless interview Mr Strydom.

"We have to take the matter seriously and investigate in the sense that someone could be taking the law into their own hands.

"We would call on Mr Strydom and the so-called Wit Wolwe to immediately clarify the situation and to remind him in no uncertain terms that it is a crime to keep someone captive.

"It is not the place of anybody, let alone the so-called Wit Wolwe, to usurp the functions of the South African Police and to take the law into their own hands. We will have to investigate this claim."

Mr Strydom said the APLA member had been arrested by Wit Wolwe agents on February 16 in connection with eastern Cape terror attacks.

Members of the rightwing group would decide on their prisoner's fate at the April 15 court-martial and would make a photograph of him available to the press.

Mr Strydom said he was not responsible for the man's capture, and had been informed of it via members.

The man was being held captive in a cave, was in good health, and had not been treated roughly.

Mr Strydom said he realised those responsible could be charged with kidnapping, but said police would first have to find the man.

Mr Strydom said "Samuel" had made certain admissions and had pointed out caches containing 30 AK-47 rifles, about 3,400 rounds, nine handgrenades, 6 mini-impet mines and a vast quantity of explosives.

The press would not be able to meet the prisoner, he said.

Rightwing observers said the claim could be a fabrication to antagonize APLA, which has neither confirmed or denied allegations it was responsible for recent attacks on whites.

APLA Says 'Main Task' To Continue 'Guerrilla Attacks'

MB2603145493 Johannesburg SAPA in English 1425 GMT 26 Mar 93

[Excerpt] Johannesburg Mar 26 SAPA—The Azanian People's Liberation Army [APLA] did not distinguish between hard and soft targets in its attacks on South African whites, the NEW NATION newspaper said in its lead story on Friday [26 March].

It quoted APLA's Chief Information Officer Johnny Majozi saying from Tanzania that the shadowy army did not "suffer from a psychosis of what constitutes hard or soft targets".

Mr. Majozi told the NEW NATION that APLA's main task at the moment was to continue mounting "guerrilla attacks".

He warned that any rightwing declaration of war on "Africans" could be catastrophic for whites.

"We are committed to totally overthrowing the settler-colonial regime. Therefore, all those who make it possible for the regime to continue to exist justifiably constitute our targets," NEW NATION quoted Mr. Majozi as saying.

However, he added APLA was not fighting a racial war and did not want to encourage a rise in racial tensions. [passage omitted]

Radical APLA Cadres Seek To Oust 'Moderate' Leadership

MB2603133293 Johannesburg THE WEEKLY MAIL in English 26 Mar-1 Apr 93 pp 2, 4

[Report by Enoch Mthembu and Eddie Koch: "White Victims, More Than One Target"]

[Text] Behind the recent attacks on white civilians—believed to be committed by the Azanian People's Liberation Army (APLA)—lies a bid by radical cadres to oust what they see as the "moderate" Pan-Africanist Congress [PAC] leadership.

The shootings are part of a bitter struggle, supported by the APLA military leadership in exile, to stop the PAC leadership from taking part in negotiations.

APLA soldiers, supported by allies in the youth and student wings of the PAC, have devised a plan to oust PAC president Clarence Makwetu and other perceived moderates in the political leadership of the movement.

PAC youth leader Ntsie Mohloai told THE WEEKLY MAIL a militant group of Africanists—made up of APLA supporters as well as activists in the Pan-Africanist Students' Organisation (PASO) and Azanian National Youth Union (Azanyu)—had formed a "steering committee" that would press for the PAC congress to elect new leaders.

The interview, together with information supplied by other sources close to the PAC, provide a rare glimpse into the internal workings of the organisation blamed for the recent upsurge of anti-white attacks.

The internal militants—backed by APLA Commander-in-Chief Johnson Mlambo, Defence Secretary Sabelo

Phama and other members of the PAC military leadership in exile—are involved in a bitter struggle with more pragmatic political leaders in the PAC who are pushing the movement into negotiations.

Armed operations launched and supported by the militant group are aimed as much at undermining plans by the moderate wing of the PAC to join multi-party talks as they are against the white regime.

The extent of the split is evidenced by the fact that Azanyu and PASO commemorated Sharpeville Day this week with a rally at Lethukuthula Hall in Katlehong on the East Rand, while the official PAC event took place at the cemetery in Sharpeville.

Indications are that the wave of terror attacks against policemen and white targets are the work of small but highly motivated bands of APLA guerrillas who received professional training in Libya as part of a recent shake-up in APLA. They operate with logistical and other support from township youth groups loyal to the militant bloc, who go by the name Revolutionary Watchdog.

There are also growing signs that militant youths in the townships, increasingly disillusioned by the involvement of their leadership in parleys with Pretoria, are gaining access to weapons and carrying out copycat attacks inspired by the APLA programme.

Another PAC source, who asked not to be named, said the moderate wing of the movement was made up of internal figures as well as Africanists who have returned from exile. They include Clarence Makwetu, Patricia De Lille (PAC secretary for relief aid), Mark Shinnars (transport secretary), Publicity Secretary Barney Desai and General Secretary Benny Alexander who, despite the militant rhetoric, believe armed struggle is no longer a pragmatic path to power.

This group is opposed by diehards in the external wing, formerly based in Dar es Salaam, who initially refused to return to South Africa because the government has not met Organisation of African Unity conditions. They include Johnson Mlambo, a survivor of the Poqo insurrection in the early 1960s, and exiled APLA high-command member Joe Mkhwanazi, acting with their militant allies inside the country.

The source said Dikgang Moseneke, the advocate who was the PAC's deputy president, resigned earlier this year because of conflicts with Mlambo, whose faction was making Moseneke's position increasingly untenable.

"The externals cling to the PAC's traditional Maoist perspective that fundamental change can only be achieved by revolutionary overthrow of the state," he said. "Having passed through the camps, in which Mao was the approved reading, APLA cadres share the externals' ideological perspective. It is also shared by the PAC youth, notably Azanyu, and the student wing, PASO.

"The internals, as a result of being in the country longer and assessing the PAC's support levels of township

consciousness and the balance of forces in the country, have come round to the view that there is no alternative to a negotiated settlement and no prospect of a successful armed struggle."

The moderates had refused to suspend the armed struggle and to distance themselves from the recent attacks because they feared widening the rift in the PAC and wanted to position themselves to the left of the African National Congress, he added.

"Their aim is to go into talks and push for a sovereign constituent assembly, on which they consider the ANC has sold out. About half the 30-strong national executive committee [NEC] are moderates, and the internal-external split closely mirrors the divisions over armed struggle and negotiations."

Though the radical youth-exile bloc controls the organisation's military operations, the moderates were able to put their candidates into most key NEC positions at the PAC national congress held in Transkei last year—to the chagrin of the Revolutionary Watchdogs.

The source said the Mlambo-led faction launched APLA's eastern Cape terror campaign in December last year to strengthen its hand and undermine its opponents in the NEC, prompting Moseneke to resign.

"The eastern Cape attacks led to acrimonious debate within the NEC, as a result of which instructions went out to APLA cadres to cool it. Hence the fact that there were no attacks for three months—until last weekend."

The recent wave of attacks appears, however, to have taken on a new dimension: spontaneous attacks by youth and student groupings which have access to arms and are disillusioned by the negotiations, escalating violence in the townships and the continued education crisis.

Many of the recent attacks, particularly those in the Vaal townships, were probably not ordered by the APLA high command, as were the eastern Cape operations last year. This would explain why APLA's external commanders have been unable to confirm or deny their members' involvement in these attacks.

"The latest attacks are a spontaneous eruption of grassroots militancy, which may or may not involve APLA cadres," the sources said. "There may be a copy cat element in the attacks: there are a lot of angry young men around at the moment."

The attacks by black gunmen on whites in the Vaal Triangle were also preceded by weeks of harsh security force action in the area.

Chris Louw reports that Vaal township dwellers say they have been subjected to "hard and brutal" treatment by mostly white policemen since the beginning of February.

According to the Human Rights Commission, a large number of township residents were arrested and injured during the security force operations.

Incidents were reported, for instance, where residents in Evaton and Sebokeng were assaulted, sexually harassed and given electric shocks by policemen.

A large number of ANC Youth League and self-defence units (SDU) members have allegedly been harassed for several months by police in connection with the deaths of policemen.

Asked to comment on this yesterday, the SAP's [South African Police] Major van Deventer rejected the claims as "absurd" and refused to respond to specific cases put to him. He said this was "possibly another incident" in which THE WEEKLY MAIL "and papers of like mind...falsely accuse the SAP of various atrocities".

The SDUs in most Vaal townships comprise members of both the ANC and PAC. Many of the ANC members in the SDUs are trained Umkhonto weSizwe [Spear of the Nation] (MK) cadres with easy access to weapons, and whose renegade behaviour has thrust them into an internecine feud with the ANC's national leadership.

ANC Appoints Commission on Detention Camp Torture

MB2703060793 Johannesburg SAPA in English 2026 GMT 26 Mar 93

[Text] Johannesburg March 26 SAPA—The African National Congress [ANC] has appointed another commission of inquiry to investigate alleged atrocities in former ANC detention camps in Angola and Tanzania.

The commission members appointed by ANC President Nelson Mandela are prominent Pretoria businessman Dr Sam Motsuenyane (chairman), Associate justice Margaret Burnham and Mr David Zamchiya.

This will be the fifth commission to investigate the ANC's detention camps and the third appointed by the ANC itself.

In a statement on Friday, Dr Motsuenyane said the commission would investigate the alleged complicity of ANC members named in allegations brought before previous investigations.

These included people allegedly involved in acts of cruelty towards detainees, those in authority who purportedly failed to stop the atrocities, those who allegedly breached the ANC's code of conduct and ANC members who could have brought the organisation into disrepute through their actions.

Dr Motsuenyane said the period during which the commission would sit and the venue for the hearing of evidence had not yet been fixed.

Human rights organisations locally and abroad would be invited to observe the proceedings, witnesses would be allowed to testify and ANC members implicated would be asked to appear in person.

The commission would brief the press from time to time on its progress. The statement did not say whether the press would be allowed to attend.

Its final report would be submitted to Mr Mandela and the commission would recommend that all of its findings and recommendations be made public.

Dr Motsuenyane said the commission had already started gathering evidence and had appointed counsels to assist in preparing for the sitting and lead evidence.

A commission office had been set up in central Johannesburg.

Anyone with information which may assist in the inquiry is asked to contact the commission offices on the first floor, Khotso House, Anderson Street, Johannesburg, or telephone (011) 832-1182.

ANC Western Transvaal General Secretary Arrested

MB2803054593 Johannesburg SAPA in English 0417 GMT 28 Mar 93

[Text] Klerksdorp, W Tvl March 28 SAPA—African National Congress (ANC) western Transvaal General Secretary George Mathuse was arrested early on Sunday [28 March] morning for allegedly assaulting a policeman, according to ANC media officer Rankoa Molefe.

Mr Molefe told SAPA Mr Mathuse was arrested soon after midnight while he was investigating a shooting in Tigane, a township near Klerksdorp.

He was apparently charged at Klerksdorp's Hartebeesfontein police station "on charges of assaulting and obstructing a police officer in the execution of his duties".

He was expected to appear in court on Monday.

ANC To Engage in Talks With IFP, Bophuthatswana

MB2803055893 Johannesburg SAPA in English 2109 GMT 27 Mar 93

[By Pierre Claassen, political correspondent]

[Text] Hermanus March 27 SAPA—The African National Congress [ANC] has decided to engage in bilateral negotiations with both the Inkatha Freedom Party [IFP] and the Bophuthatswana government.

Senior ANC Constitutional Negotiator Mohammed Valli Moosa told a weekend media conference in Hermanus, east of Cape Town, that the ANC hoped the first meetings would take place soon.

The meeting with the Bophuthatswana government would take place within 10 to 14 days and would be used to discuss the re-incorporation of the nominally independent homeland and other TBVC [Transkei,

Bophuthatswana, Venda, Ciskei] states into South Africa, and the role of an independent electoral commission in the first fully democratic elections.

Mr Moosa said that every effort would now have to be made to ensure that the constitutional process did not break down or deadlock again.

"Every effort will be made to ensure the new negotiations forum will conclude its work in the shortest possible space of time," he said.

"The country needs a settlement in a the very shortest space of time."

To that end, strong emphasis was being placed on bilateral negotiations.

Considerable progress had been made in bilateral talks with the government since December. For this reason, the ANC had decided to engage the IFP and Bophuthatswana in similar negotiations.

Asked what would happen if parties balked at the negotiations, Mr Moosa said: "it (bilateral talks) needs to begin very soon and if one or other party is not prepared to proceed because it is in principle against democracy, then the show must go on without that party".

ANC Director of Information and Publicity Pallo Jordan said a settlement needed to be as inclusive as possible so that any "lunatic" fringe which wanted to continue a violent confrontation, would not find succour in some malcontented section of society.

"We must not allow a lunatic fringe to find that kind of support," he said.

Arrested Eikenhof Suspects Allegedly Admit ANC Membership

MB2903112493 Johannesburg SAPA in English 1108 GMT 29 Mar 93

[Text] Johannesburg March 29 SAPA—Police and the Law and Order Ministry remained tight-lipped on Monday [29 March] about the political affiliation, if any, of two suspects arrested in connection with the apparent racist killing of a white woman and two children south of Johannesburg recently.

Initial suggestions were that the killers, who sprayed passing cars at Eikenhof with AK-47 bullets on March 19, were cadres of the Azanian Peoples Liberation Army (APLA), the military wing of the Pan-Africanist Congress.

But weekend news reports, quoting a source close to the police investigation, said the arrested suspects had admitted to being African National Congress members but denied belonging to the ANC's military wing Umkhonto we Sizwe [Spear of the Nation].

ANC spokesmen were not available for comment on Monday morning.

Law and Order Ministry spokesman Capt Craig Kotze and Witwatersrand Police spokesman Col Dave Bruce on Monday stated they could not say if the suspects had any political links.

Col Bruce was merely prepared to confirm that the arrests were made in the [Orange] Free State "as a result of sterling detective work" and that more were expected to follow. He said an automatic pistol, an automatic rifle magazine and a "considerable" number of rounds were seized.

No information was forthcoming on the identification and ages of the suspects, whether they had appeared in court, where they were being held and how the arrests had been effected.

Weekend press reports said the suspects were arrested in Monyakeng township near Wesselbron at 10pm on Wednesday last week after Brixton Murder and Robbery detectives received a tip-off and raided a house in the township.

The suspects were brought back to Johannesburg for questioning, the reports said.

27, 28 Mar Review of Press Editorials, Commentaries

MB2803161793

[Editorial Report]

SATURDAY STAR

Efficacy of Security Measures Questioned—"Tough moves had to be made against political violence," begins the Johannesburg SATURDAY STAR in English on 27 March in a page 12 editorial. "But the 10-point plan unveiled by Police Commissioner General Johan van der Merwe would have had more chance of success had it not been unilateral." The SATURDAY STAR goes on to question the efficacy of this most recent police measure to quell political violence. "Why should this one work when, patiently, the others did not?" Although this plan "looks ambitious and far reaching," "it also smacks of the 'old South Africa'." "What this country needs in order to address violence and crime is legitimate, representative political control of the security forces, as soon as possible."

SUNDAY STAR

American Pressure on RSA Nuclear Program Criticized—Johannesburg SUNDAY STAR in English on 28 March in a page 26 editorial states that President de Klerk might have chosen "this week to publicise the dismantling two years ago of South Africa's nuclear weapons" in an attempt "to counter intense American pressure aimed at destroying the development by Armscor's [Armaments Corporation of South Africa] commercial wing, Denel, of South Africa's own space industry." "By proving that South Africa is nuclear-friendly, De Klerk hopes to capture the moral high ground in the

dispute." The paper then launches into a commentary on American intentions and policy regarding nuclear weapons and satellites. "Doubtlessly, the Americans are just as motivated by their own self-interest as they are by concerns for world peace. Protectionism of US industry has long been an American obsession. Huge post-Cold War cutbacks in US defence spending have intensified competition for the world arms market, which the Americans hope to dominate while retaining the major slice of the commercial satellite industry. But anger at self-serving Americans should not be allowed to blind us to our own self-interest. We must avoid another Moss gas-style fiasco in which vast amounts of the country's precious resources are pumped into an enterprise what may be an anachronism."

SUNDAY TIMES

Further on Response to Political Violence—"The public revulsion felt at the recent politically motivated slaughter of civilians, black and white, is now matched only by the contempt with which the public regards the response of the politicians to the carnage," begins the Johannesburg SUNDAY TIMES in English on 28 March in a page 20 editorial. "The ANC [African National Congress], naturally, condemns the murders but refuses squarely to confront the PAC, defenders of killers," but this exhibits a "moral slide-away, a flight to the soft option." "The government, meanwhile, wrings its hands and does the expected thing and rounds up the usual suspects." "At the approaching resumed multi-party talks the government has, correctly, put violence on the agenda but a start has to be made in establishing a moral platform from which the country can proceed."

29 Mar Review of Press Editorials, Commentaries
MB2903133993

[Editorial Report]

THE CITIZEN

Praise for 'Nuclear Devices' Achievement—Referring to South African State President de Klerk's announcement that the country had developed, and subsequently dismantled six "nuclear devices," Johannesburg THE CITIZEN in English on 26 March in its page 6 editorial says: "The fact that South Africa had atomic bombs would have made its enemies think twice about any military adventures across our borders. The R[and]600 million to R700 million involved was money well spent. There

were also important spin-offs, both in the enrichment of uranium for peaceful purposes, and the provision of radio isotopes for medical treatment. Indeed, our scientists, who reportedly worked in co-operation with Israeli and other experts, are to be congratulated on a remarkable scientific achievement in difficult circumstances."

THE STAR

Defections To Become Commonplace—The decision by MP Hennie Bekker to transfer from the National Party, NP, to the Inkatha Freedom Party, IFP, "is part of a process likely to gather momentum in the months ahead," notes a page 10 editorial in Johannesburg THE STAR in English on 29 March. "As the nonracial election looms and as career politicians assess their chances of survival, defections will become commonplace. The enfranchisement of blacks for parliamentary elections means that the electorate will expand from less than 4 million to more than 20 million. The influence of established white-dominated parties will almost certainly be drastically reduced or eliminated altogether."

SOWETAN

De Klerk 'Bluster' Against Holomisa To Divert Attention—A page 10 editorial in Johannesburg SOWETAN in English on 29 March notes the government's "displeasure" with Transkei's Holomisa, and the fact that De Klerk is urged by his caucus to "do something" about Holomisa, seen as a cheeky upstart who needs to be put in his place. SOWETAN believes all the homelands should be dismantled and reincorporated into South Africa in due course. "The matter is on the agenda of the constitutional negotiations which begin this week. That's where the Government should take its case. The Government is simply bluffing because it knows it cannot take a unilateral decision on the matter without derailing the talks. But there is another cynical side to De Klerk's obsession with the Transkei. Holomisa has released a comprehensive plan detailing the nefarious activities and designs of the military, going right to the top and implicating De Klerk himself." Therefore, his "bluster against Holomisa is nothing but an attempt to divert the attention of the nation from issues raised in that document."

Patriotic Front Source of 'Acrimonious Divisions'—"The Patriotic Front, formed to weld the various strands of the liberation movement into a formidable force, has so far been a disappointment," declares a second editorial on the same page. It has "regrettably become a source of acrimonious divisions."

Angola

UNITA, U.S. Consultative Talks Continue

Official Calls Talks 'Productive'

MB2803184793 London BBC World Service in English
1705 GMT 28 Mar 93

[From the "Focus on Africa" program]

[Text] Optimistic noises are coming out of the consultative talks taking place in the Ivorian capital, Abidjan, between the Angolan opposition movement, UNITA [National Union for the Total Independence of Angola], and the government of the United States of America. The talks started a few days ago with a view to smoothing the way to negotiations between UNITA and the Angolan Government. Talks between the two sides were called off in Addis Ababa because a full UNITA delegation failed to turn up. Subsequently fighting between the two sides intensified leading to the recapture of the strategically important town of Huambo by UNITA. The Ivorian talks are expected to end today. And on the line to Abidjan, Josephine Hazeley asked UNITA's Jardo Muecalia whether they are anywhere near reaching an agreement on peace talks.

[Begin recording] [Muecalia] We came to what I would call an agreement in principle over what aspects should be dealt with when we finally meet with the government delegation in about two weeks. From our point of view, they were very, very productive and we think that if we can build on the progress achieved. We can definitely achieve progress toward peace in the country.

[Hazeley] Now, do you want to throw light on these areas you want to talk about?

[Muecalia] I would like first of all to say that in principle, of course, this was a consultation with the United States Government. I think they plan to consult with the government as well, and I will probably leave to the U.S. Government to announce at the end the details of their findings. But, I think generally our concerns were basically the whole issue of the security of people, the security of every Angolan to live wherever he is, independent of where he comes from and what party he is affiliated with. We dealt of course with the issues of finding peace, resolving this whole crisis that the country is going through right now. I think that within those, I would say, general lines, we came to some concrete ideas that I think will be very helpful.

[Hazeley] You know there are reports coming from the Angolan administration saying that they have already rejected your demands that substantive security issues be discussed and things like that. I mean, how do you feel about this immediate rejection from the Angolan Government of your proposal?

[Muecalia] Well, number one, I think that all the issues we have raised are very legitimate. They are concerns.

They are real issues and again, if I were, I think, to take every word that comes out from Luanda, I think will take another job. The most important is that they recognize the reality and they start dealing with that reality. I would say again that if there is a complete rejection of proposals that we are putting together, I think then the international community should in fact see who is interested in peace.

[Hazeley] What about the venue for the talks? Are you still insisting they take place in Geneva?

[Muecalia] I think right now each side has proposals to put on the table, and the way it was left, I think we leave to the UN and the secretary general to decide where it is going to be. [end recording]

UNITA's Valentim Comments

MB2803211493 Jamba Voz da Resistencia do Galo
Negro in Portuguese 1900 GMT 28 Mar 93

[Text] Delegations from the National Union for the Total Independence of Angola [UNITA] and the United States, which are discussing methods to achieve understanding in Angola, met again at the Hotel Ivoire in Abidjan this morning. The discussions center on eight points presented by UNITA, which considers them necessary for obtaining a lasting peace in Angola now that many clauses of the Bicesse Accord are outdated in view of the political and military situation in Angola.

The eight points being debated, in brief, are: national reconciliation, the establishment of a government of transition, administrative decentralization, the freedom of press, and humanitarian aid. The restructuring of the international mediation so that the role of the UN Angola Verification Mission-2 can correspond to the present phase, the definition of the status of the candidates to the presidential elections, the release of political prisoners, the return of the bodies of the two most senior UNITA leaders killed in Luanda, and a cease-fire are other points being presented by UNITA.

Meanwhile, UNITA delegation chief Dr. Jorge Valentim has expressed satisfaction with the results obtained so far. According to the UNITA leader, the doors of general dialogue on Angola are now open once again.

[Begin recording] [Valentim] Peace talks in Angola will resume. It is up to the U.S. Government to publicly announce the results of consultations held by the U.S. Government with us officially, and in an informal manner with a government delegation led by General Higinio Carneiro (?currently) in Abidjan. We can say that these consultations were deep rooted and had very practical results for the establishment of peace in Angola. I believe these have been the best consultations we have had on a possible negotiation with the government. We can say that [words indistinct] emergency aid for the people in Angola. It should be viewed as such by international agencies. On our side, we guarantee all the

necessary cooperation so that the people can receive aid in Angola, regardless of their political affiliation.

[Unidentified reporter] There are four important points in the proposal that UNITA presented in Abidjan, notably the establishment of a government of transition, the status of the candidates to the presidential elections, administrative decentralization, and the restructuring of the mediation. What are the points [words indistinct] agreement, according to UNITA?

[Valentim] Well, the U.S. Government will make an important statement on the results. We reached an agreement that the U.S. Government should announce the results. I will, therefore, stop here instead of commenting on each and every point. I can do so or my colleagues will be able to do so from tomorrow and [words indistinct].

The government delegation here is led at the highest level by General Higinio Carneiro. I believe Mr. Muteka is also included in the delegation. I believe they are holding consultations with the U.S. Government on the forthcoming talks. Then a date will be announced. In one way or the other, both parties will resume their involvement in negotiations. [end recording]

UNITA Issues Proposals

AB2703190093 Paris AFP in English 1850 GMT 27 Mar 93

[Excerpts] Lisbon March 27 (AFP)—Angola's armed rebel movement called Saturday [27 March] for a provisional government to be one of the main points of discussion in peace talks that it has suggested should start April 15.

In a communique received here, the National Union for the Total Independence of Angola (UNITA) said the peace accords signed in Portugal in May 1991 "contained valuable principles but required an extension" of its contents "given the situation created in Angola by the current conflict." [passage omitted]

Among the four points UNITA has proposed for the new peace talks is what it called "national reconciliation", to be based on a "provisional or transition government," government decentralization, security guarantees for people and property and "freedom of the press."

UNITA's proposals were released as its representatives met in the Ivory Coast capital of Abidjan with U.S. Deputy Assistant Secretary for African Affairs Jeffrey Davidow. [passage omitted]

Government Rejects Proposals

MB2803163593 Johannesburg Radio South Africa Network in English 1600 GMT 28 Mar 93

[Text] Peace talks between the Angolan Government and UNITA [National Union for the Total Independence of Angola] are to be resumed in 2 weeks' time, and a cease-fire will then come into effect. This announcement

was made during talks between two delegations and the United States in Abidjan in the Ivory Coast. Meanwhile, Radio Luanda reported a short while ago that the Angolan Government has rejected a proposal by UNITA that peace talks be resumed next month, but that security issues and details of a cease-fire must be settled first.

Government Rejects UNITA's Appeal for Relief Aid

MB2903075293 Luanda Radio Nacional Network in Portuguese 0600 GMT 29 Mar 93

[Text] The Angolan Government is in favor of food aid to Angolans living in areas controlled by the National Union for the Total Independence of Angola [UNITA], but that aid should also cover those living in cities besieged by UNITA forces. Norberto dos Santos, minister of assistance and social reintegration, told Radio Nacional yesterday that the Angolan Government has already responded to the UN Angola Verification Mission-2's request to assist Huambo residents.

[Begin Dos Santos recording] We are not against humanitarian aid, though we believe that it cannot be done in isolation. We have informed Ms. Margaret Anstee that the government wants humanitarian aid to reach everybody, though as part of a single operation. We do not think that such aid could be delivered at UNITA's request as reported in the international news media because the government had already appealed for humanitarian assistance, covering Angolans as a whole. Furthermore, we told Ms. Margaret Anstee that if humanitarian aid was delivered in line with UNITA's proposals, aid would be distributed in an isolated manner. If that were the case, how would UNITA see humanitarian aid to Bie and Cuando Cubango residents who have been under siege for more than two months? UN aircraft cannot land in those areas. Our ministry has failed in its attempts to rescue orphans from those areas and bring them to Luanda.

In view of that, the government has stated that the question of humanitarian aid should be discussed at length within the framework of talks so that aid covers the entire country, unlike what UNITA is proposing. [end recording]

Norberto dos Santos added that the military situation in Huambo Province does not permit humanitarian organizations to overfly the region for security reasons. According to Dos Santos, intense clashes are taking place there.

[Begin Dos Santos recording] The government cannot be held responsible for the UN decision to send relief aid to Huambo. At a meeting on Thursday [25 March], we were quite clear about the government's message: If the UN goes ahead, it will be fully responsible for the consequences because the government cannot be held responsible for what might happen. One should take into account the fact that clashes are taking place in Huambo and UNITA itself cannot guarantee security in the city of

Huambo. We have information that the airport has been destroyed and in view of the intense clashes, UNITA cannot assure any organization that it will guarantee security there. [end recording]

Dos Santos added: One cannot understand UNITA's position of requesting food aid to international agencies because when the latter had called for a truce, the government accepted it, but UNITA rejected it. At a time when the residents of Huambo have left the city, UNITA is asking for humanitarian aid.

[Begin Dos Santos recording] When the government accepted the truce proposed by the UN agencies in order to assist Huambo residents, UNITA rejected it. So, we cannot understand how come UNITA is today saying that it is necessary to assist Huambo residents. In fact, we know that the residents have abandoned the city of Huambo. Moreover, the UN agencies cannot guarantee that aid to be sent to Huambo will be distributed to the people because no nongovernmental organizations operate there. The Catholic Caritas organization is not present in Huambo. So, we do not know to which nongovernmental organizations will the UN agencies give food. [end recording]

Government-UNITA Clashes Continue

Fighting in Bie Reported

MB2703062693 *Jamba Voz da Resistencia do Galo*
Negro in Portuguese 0600 GMT 27 Mar 93

[Text] A People's Armed Forces for the Liberation of Angola [FAPLA] Tactical Group yesterday desperately tried to rescue the military troops ensnared in the government palace in Bie. To no avail, though, because the National Union for the Total Independence of Angola [UNITA] forces guarding (Setecol) Ward put that tactical group to flight. Twenty-three FAPLA soldiers were killed and 18 (others) were captured, including the captain who headed the team. The number of wounded FAPLA soldiers runs into the hundreds.

The UNITA forces found 33 individual weapons, one RPG-7 rocket launcher, and one Star military vehicle, which was burned.

Fierce clashes are continuing inside the city, but nothing will halt the Armed Forces for the Liberation of Angola's [FALA] courageous advances. Yesterday, the FALA forces attacked the principal hideout, after the palace controlled by Eduardo dos Santos' men. One T-55 tank was burned and the bodies of 15 FAPLA soldiers were left on the ground.

Namibians Hit Mine in Cunene

MB2803065693 *Jamba Voz da Resistencia do Galo*
Negro in Portuguese 0600 GMT 28 Mar 93

[Text] Namibia, a UN member state, continues to interfere in Angola's internal affairs. It has been sending large contingents of its Namibian Defense Force [preceding

three words in English] armed troops to Angola to fight alongside Eduardo dos Santos' men against the National Union for the Total Independence of Angola [UNITA] forces.

Several reports have been aired over the last few days in connection with those events. Only recently, seven Namibian soldiers were wounded when the vehicle they were traveling in activated a mine along the road between Namacunda and Chiede, in Cunene Province. They were immediately taken to (langela) Hospital, in Oshakati, Namibia, but three never made it alive.

Joint People's Armed Forces for the Liberation of Angola [FAPLA]-Riot Police troops, along with SWAPO [South-West African People's Organization] forces were traveling to Chiede in an IFA military truck when they were blown up by a mine along the road from Namacunda. Twenty-one men, including seven SWAPO soldiers, were seriously wounded. The Namibians were taken to (langela) Hospital, in Oshakati, but three perished along the way. The other 14 Riot Police troops were taken to (Chulo) Hospital, but two died along the road between Ondjiva and Xangongo, and another three between Xangongo and (Chulo). The other nine made it to hospital with much difficulty and it is quite unlikely they will survive.

Mercenaries Killed in Soyo

MB2803064993 *Jamba Voz da Resistencia do Galo*
Negro in Portuguese 0600 GMT 28 Mar 93

[Excerpt] The city of Soyo has been beset by fierce fighting for the last four days. The courageous Armed Forces for the Liberation of Angola [FALA] troops are scoring tangible victories over Jose Eduardo dos Santos's men, who are backed by South African, French, Cuban, Brazilian, and Spanish mercenaries.

The city of Soyo is ablaze, thereby finishing the Angolan balkanization theory which the enemies of the Angolan people have advanced on several occasions. Felix Miranda, the Voice of the Resistance of the Black Cockerel correspondent, is on the ground and reports on the actual situation, which has been distorted by petrodollar-bribed mass media.

[Begin Miranda recording] Harsh and virtually uninterrupted clashes continue to characterize life here in Soyo. Many already call it Kuwait II. This oil dispute is costly for the Luanda gang and its mercenaries. The result of these three [number as heard] days of fighting is 153 identified People's Armed Forces for the Liberation of Angola [FAPLA] soldiers confirmed killed. Five white mercenaries were also killed. Their fate will be reported soon. Two BMP-1 armored cars and two [word indistinct] were burned. Our FALA forces also captured one Unimog personnel carrier and two Engesa military trucks carrying equipment.

Without trying to be ironic or to boast about FALA's supremacy in terms of combat preparedness, we hereby challenge Colonel Jose de Castro, commander of the FAPLA troops trying to occupy Soyo, to invite Angolan and foreign newsmen to visit the hospitals (?where his forces are), because we are certain they are bursting at the seams with wounded men sleeping in the open because of a lack of rooms and beds. [passage omitted] [end recording]

UNITA Reports Continued Control of Cubal

MB2803083493 Jamba Voz da Resistencia do Galo Negro in Portuguese 0600 GMT 28 Mar 93

[Text] Contrary to lies being spread by the Popular Movement for the Liberation of Angola-Labor Party [MPLA-PT] government, the National Union for the Total Independence of Angola [UNITA] continues to hold Benguela Province's strategic town of Cubal, which is halfway between Huambo and the city of Benguela.

Lourenco Bento, the Voice of the Resistance of the Black Cockerel [Vorgan] correspondent in Huambo, reports MPLA-PT and Riot Police troops who sought refuge in the mountains after the defeat suffered by Eduardo dos Santos' men on 13 March, now continue to turn themselves in to the competent UNITA authorities in Cubal District. Some 10 People's Armed Forces for the Liberation of Angola-Riot Police troops turned up in skeletal condition, but only Sergeant Jose Simao Indio managed to speak to the Vorgan correspondent yesterday. Because they were in such a weak physical and moral condition following days of famine and misery in caves, the others had not yet been able to recover their wind in the afternoon.

Meanwhile, reports from Caimbambo say MPLA-PT officials continue to steal many metric tons of foodstuffs donated by international humanitarian organizations and intended for displaced people. Instead, they are using those goods to supply their own forces, currently facing miserable conditions because of serious logistic difficulties, particularly with regard to food.

Prime Minister on Defense Spending, Market Economy

MB2803081393 Luanda Radio Nacional Network in Portuguese 0700 GMT 28 Mar 93

[Text] This year, government spending will benefit the defense sector. The Council of Ministers, which met on 26 March, approved a program which responds to the needs of the country's political and military situation, thereby postponing plans for consolidating our market economy. In an interview with the People's Television of Angola, Prime Minister Marcolino Moco had this to say about it:

[Begin Moco recording] We have approved a program which takes into account our country's difficult political and military situation. We have had to suspend our market economy consolidation plans. We are principally

concerned about how government organs will be able to support the armed forces in their difficult mission to defend the people, infrastructure, and discourage National Union for the Total Independence of Angola [UNITA] from trying to place Savimbi in power without being chosen by the people. We have also discussed those issues arising from economic measures and which further complicate our people's lives. Thus, we have proposed certain fiscal and salary measures as part of a program which will be submitted to the National Assembly for approval within the next few days. In view of that, we would not like to go into too many details at this stage. [end recording]

Council of Ministers Approves Defense, Other Documents

MB2703093793 Luanda Radio Nacional Network in Portuguese 0600 GMT 27 Mar 93

[Text] The Council of Ministers meeting has adopted a set of measures granting priority to issues pertaining to national defense, the armed forces, and support for war-displaced people. Yesterday's session focused on several documents relating to the country's economic, social, and political life. The Council of Ministers also decided to make 120,000 new kwanzas the new minimum salary for public servants. The maximum salary will be slightly more than 2.3 million new kwanzas. Council of Ministers Secretary Carlos Feijo said:

[Begin recording] [Feijo] This program includes a number of instruments, including the General State Budget, the Foreign Exchange Budget, several measures to reduce fiscal contributions, and measures pertaining to salary adjustments for the public service.

[Unidentified reporter] Would you care to give more details about that matter of salary adjustments?

[Feijo] With regard to salary adjustments, I must say that a draft decree on public service salary adjustments was submitted to the Council of Ministers for discussion last week. That draft decree included a number of recommendations. At this session, the Public Administration Ministry presented a plan which only altered the minimum salary for the public service. In line with that, the meeting today approved a minimum salary of 120,000 new kwanzas for public servants. The salary ceiling in the public service is about 2.375 million new kwanzas. That is the salary of the president of the Republic. In addition to that, the Council of Ministers also approved a decree on representation expenses. Some percentages were approved, which will be added to the aforementioned basic salaries. Some posts will enjoy representation benefits in line with percentages presented to the Council of Ministers today. You will have access to those in good time.

[Reporter] What about foreign currency rates? Will neither the finance nor the banking departments compete with the parallel market any more?

[Feijo] With regard to that specific issue, I must tell you that it is not very important at this stage to go too deeply into it. That is because the government is following the principle of presenting to the National Assembly the program the Council of Ministers approved today. In other words, those measures will be effective once they have been approved by the National Assembly. That has been discussed and is part of the program. It will be made public in good time and once the National Assembly has approved it. [end recording]

Lesotho

Elections Begin 27 Mar; Irregularities Reported

MB2703122893 Johannesburg SAPA in English 1208 GMT 27 Mar 93

[Text] Maseru March 27 SAPA—Most of the 1600 polling stations in Lesotho opened late on Saturday morning [27 March], and at least one party has complained of deliberate election sabotage.

Stations opened mostly by between one and five hours after the official starting time of 7am, official independent election observer Donald Simpson told SAPA.

Basotho Congress Party official David Mochocholo complained of deliberate sabotage of the election, he said.

Marematlau Freedom Party leader Vincent Malebo, complaining about shoddy preparations, told the chief electoral officer, Mrs Joycelyn Lucas from Trinidad, that she must take full responsibility for what had happened.

The election process was too complicated for Lesotho, Mr Simpson said. It was aimed at preventing fraud by "ruthless European criminals" and was not necessary for the mountain kingdom.

For one thing, there were too many polling booths with about 400 people per polling station. In last year's Potchefstroom by-election there was only one station for at least 15,000 people.

Ballot papers, furthermore, were very sophisticated. Two counterfoils had to be removed at different times and the papers had to be folded three times in a special way.

Mr Simpson said all voters had to be shown the procedure, which was taking five minutes per person. He predicted a high number of spoiled votes at between two to three per cent.

An ultra-violet lighting system to detect indelible ink on people who had already voted was also not being used properly.

Mr Simpson said operators were not shining the light on the correct places. Voters were being marked on their index fingers and officials were examining their palms.

The lights, furthermore, were not operational at all stations because there were not enough batteries.

Polling will end at 5pm but the observer predicted voting would still be continuing at 10pm as people queueing at closing time would be allowed to cast their vote.

BCP Wins in 5 Constituencies

MB2803120593 Johannesburg Channel Africa Radio in English 1100 GMT 28 Mar 93

[Text] The Basotholand Congress Party, the BCP, looks set to win Lesotho's first election in 23 years as the Army prepares to hand over power to a democratically elected government.

The BCP has trounced its bitter rival, the Basotholand National Party, the BNP, in five constituencies. Observers say this looks promising for the BCP as results from the remaining 60 constituencies stream in. The two parties are the main contenders out of a bewildering array of 16 political parties.

Up to 80 percent of Lesotho's 700,000 voters flooded to the polls yesterday. Voting was extended until today because of logistical problems such as delivering election material to remote areas in the mountain kingdom. Seventeen parties are contesting the 243 seats at stake in 65 constituencies.

Only two parties, the Basotholand Congress Party and the Basotho National Party, had fielded candidates in all the constituencies.

BNP 'Does Not Accept' Results

MB2903111593 Johannesburg SAPA in English 1052 GMT 29 Mar 93

[Text] Maseru March 29 SAPA—The Basotholand Congress Party [BCP] is headed for a landslide win in Lesotho's general election, but the Basotholand National Party [BNP] has said it does not accept the results.

The latest five results to be announced were Lipelaneng, Kueneng, Maama, Tele and Qhoali, all won by the BCP, SABC [South African Broadcasting Corporation] radio news reported on Monday.

The BCP has now won 33 of the 65 seats.

The remaining results are expected later on Monday.

The BNP held a meeting at its head office in Maseru on Monday morning to discuss the results.

BCP Leader Dr Ntsu Mokhehle has not reacted to his party's victory as yet.

Madagascar

Zafy Grants Political Amnesty in Inaugural Speech

EA2703205293 Antananarivo Radio Madagascar Network in Malagasy 1600 GMT 27 Mar 93

[Excerpts] Professor Albert Zafy is the first president of the Third Republic of Madagascar. He took the oath at

Mahamasina Stadium at 1100 this morning. He took the oath in front of the High Constitutional Court, the various national institutions and a large number of people. [passage omitted]

After completion of his swearing-in ceremony at 1100, Albert Zafy, addressed the whole Malagasy people:

[Begin recording] I greet all of you who have turned up here in large numbers. [applause] I also greet all those friends throughout the island as well as those abroad who wished to attend the present ceremony but were unable to do so. It is with great happiness and respect that I greet you. [applause]. [passage omitted]

Those who wish to take part in the management of national affairs must be patriots, must not intend to use their fellow countrymen's trust for self-interests, and must not be so tempted by the power of money that they betray the people. [applause]. [passage omitted]

Freedom: You, the Malagasy people, have been given freedom so that you can protect your own interests. You have been given freedom so that you can demand that honesty prevails.

You have been given freedom so as to encourage you to expose all evil acts. You have been given freedom so that you will have the courage to protect those who are honest. You have been given such freedom so as to allow you to take part in the economic recovery expected to defeat poverty.

As you have requested that transparency prevails in management, always be in the vanguard of the fight for such a request.

Security, progress, democracy—These are three inseparable pillars for the development of the country. Security, peace, and public order must prevail in the country so that we can [word indistinct]. [applause]. We have laws. We have officials in charge of the protection of people's lives, the security of the people's and state property, officials in charge of the defense of the country and the nation. Security will not be total in the countryside unless free and lasting movement is there. [passage omitted]

The people call for transparency so that situations which might lead to trouble can be corrected. A sick person hoping for recovery must first accept the fact that he is sick. His disease can then be diagnosed to allow him to receive the appropriate drug. [applause] Diseases which remain hidden will not receive the appropriate drugs and will thus not be cured.

Exposing the past is needed [words indistinct] not to fear the truth. [applause] It is in this way that a solution can be found to restore mutual confidence and solidarity under the respect of [words indistinct]. [passage omitted]

At this specific time when I have just been sworn-in and have started to act as president of the Republic, I grant a general amnesty to all political prisoners and to all those punished for [word indistinct] crimes.

Prison sentences will also be reduced for certain crimes. Thank you, ladies and gentlemen. [applause] [end recording]

After his speech in Malagasy, President Albert Zafy addressed the international community in French. He explained Madagascar's efforts towards democracy and liberalism. His address also centered on Madagascar's readiness to work with all countries, stressing that his government was ready to approve working agreements signed by Madagascar with foreign countries. [passage omitted]

Mozambique

Dhlakama: Renamo Not To 'Resort to War Again'
MB2703133093 Umtata Capital Radio in English 1300 GMT 27 Mar 93

[Text] Renamo [Mozambique National Resistance] leader Afonso Dhlakama has promised his movement will not resort to war again in Mozambique. Dhlakama was reacting to a report on the Portuguese service of the BBC earlier this week, which said Renamo was preparing for war again. The story was based on anonymous sources, but Dhlakama says it's part of an organized campaign to denigrate Renamo's image.

Renamo Official Promises Not To Return to Bush
MB2703151893 Maputo Radio Mozambique Network in Portuguese 1030 GMT 27 Mar 93

[Text] It is being reported that officials from the Mozambique National Resistance [Renamo], who are members of commissions established within the framework of the general peace accord, left Maputo for Maringue, the headquarters of Afonso Dhlakama's movement, to protest against the manner in which the Mozambican Government is dealing with their logistical problems. Raul Domingos, head of the Renamo delegation at the Supervision and Control Commission [CSC], has denied these reports. Bernardino Chopa, our correspondent in Lichinga, Niassa Province, reports:

[Begin recording] [Chopa] Renamo's Organization Department chief Raul Domingos has categorically denied that Renamo had abandoned the peace process. The Renamo leader was reacting to reports that Renamo had abandoned the various working commissions established within the framework of the Rome peace accords. He was addressing dozens of Renamo members and sympathizers in the capital of Niassa Province. Raul Domingos accused the government of delaying the monitoring work of the UN personnel in Mozambique.

In turn, Vicente Ululu, Renamo secretary general and head of the delegation which visited Niassa Province a few days ago, once again said that Renamo will implement the General Peace Accord. The Renamo secretary general said the war has ended and it is now time for political war. Vicente Ululu also said that his delegation was in Niassa to demonstrate Renamo's good will in implementing the General Peace Accord. Vicente Ululu said: We shall now fight ideologically.

[Ululu] I would like to point out that the war has ended and it is now time for a war of ideas, a political war. Thus, there should be no fear that Renamo will once again return to the bush to wage war. We do not have such intentions because we think that we have already won the democracy we want. We have always advocated multiparty democracy. We have already won this democracy, and at the present moment Renamo is carrying out its political struggle until the holding of elections.

Before elections, there will certainly be an electoral campaign and Renamo, as well as other emerging parties, will participate in it. Let us wait for that time and see what party the people will choose. The elected government will be a legitimate government. The elected president will be a legitimate president. The party elected to form a government will form a legitimate government. This is my message. I believe that the Mozambican people clearly understand this message that we want democracy in our country. [end recording]

Dhlakama Denies Whites Training Zimbabwe Dissidents

MB2803060693 Maputo Radio Mozambique Network in Portuguese 0500 GMT 28 Mar 93

[Text] Afonso Dhlakama, leader of the Mozambique National Resistance [Renamo], has denied rumors that his movement has strengthened its ranks with white soldiers to train Zimbabwean dissidents in Mozambican territory.

Renamo's press department in Maringue quotes Dhlakama as saying that his movement enjoys close and friendly ties with Zimbabwe. Dhlakama added there is a reason for those rumors, namely to ensure that Zimbabwean Head of State Robert Mugabe does not recognize Renamo as an opposition party in Mozambique.

Dhlakama has also proposed that his planned meeting with President Joaquim Chissano take place in Chimoio during the ceremony marking the withdrawal of Zimbabwe troops from the Beira Corridor. The Renamo leader explained such a meeting would allow both men to find ways to overcome the current deadlock, which is preventing the operation of the various commissions which were created in terms of the General Peace Accord.

Dhlakama Says Frelimo Creates Obstacles to Peace Process

MB2703113693 Maputo Radio Mozambique Network in Portuguese 1030 GMT 27 Mar 93

[Text] Afonso Dhlakama, leader of the Mozambique National Resistance [Renamo], has alleged that the Mozambique Liberation Front [Frelimo] has been creating many obstacles to Mozambique's pacification process and is mainly to blame for delays in the implementation of the General Peace Accord.

Speaking in Maringue, Dhlakama noted Frelimo is setting up those obstacles with the aim of gaining time so it can take roots. He said Frelimo wants to use humanitarian aid as an electoral tool and he added that food is not being channelled to Renamo-controlled areas. In turn, he said, people in Frelimo-held areas are receiving large quantities of food. He also alleged that nongovernment organizations remain indifferent, despite the fact that thousands of people are dying of hunger in many parts of the country. According to Dhlakama, those organizations must review their role in the Mozambican peace process.

Dhlakama further claimed that Renamo has been the target of campaigns and untruthful information intended to tarnish its image. He alleged senior Frelimo officials are often responsible for such statements, which they make with the aim of misleading the public.

UN Official Says Renamo Unwilling To Allow Food Aid Entry

MB2603192193 Maputo Radio Mozambique Network in Portuguese 1030 GMT 26 Mar 93

[Text] Bernet Bernander, director of the UN Office for Humanitarian Assistance to Mozambique, has denied allegations that aid agencies operating in the country are giving priority to government areas to the detriment of Mozambique National Resistance [Renamo] areas in the distribution of food aid. He said in addition to this some Renamo commanders show less willingness to permit the entry of UN teams into their areas to distribute food. The UN official was speaking to Radio Mozambique yesterday following frequent accusations by Renamo that aid agencies were neglecting areas under its control. He said: For us there are neither Renamo nor government areas. Our assistance is directed to all Mozambicans as a way of giving a true meaning to the peace accord.

[Begin Bernander recording in English, fading into Portuguese translation] No, we have been reaching a number of these areas, and since October we have made distributions of over 14,000 tonnes of foodstuffs in Renamo-controlled areas in Manica and Sofala Provinces, which have been most hit by the drought. We also distributed soap and domestic appliances. For instance, over 200 tonnes of seeds have been distributed in Renamo areas. Although we have not reached all the areas, we think we supplied most of them. [end recording]

We then asked Bernet Bernander what amount of food was distributed to government-controlled areas during the same period—that is, since October.

[Begin Bernander recording] I don't have the exact information here. But certainly the quantities of food that have been distributed since that period were much higher because most of the people lived in areas controlled by the government. It is also necessary to take into account that there are people in Renamo areas who go to areas under the control of the government to receive foodstuffs. The access to Renamo areas has been difficult due to land mines and in some cases, commanders of this movement show less willingness to permit the entry of the United Nations to distribute humanitarian aid. This is an issue we should discuss with the Renamo leadership. [end recording]

Renamo Responds to Accusation

MB2703094193 Maputo Radio Mozambique Network in Portuguese 0500 GMT 27 Mar 93

[Text] Afonso Dhlakama, Mozambique National Resistance [Renamo] leader, yesterday described as groundless the accusation made by Bernet Bernander, director of the UN Office for Humanitarian Assistance to Mozambique, that Renamo commanders are less than willing to allow food aid to reach areas under their control.

Dhlakama said it was impossible for Renamo commanders, who often have family in the area, to prevent UN teams from distributing food. Speaking in Maringue yesterday, the Renamo leader said it is increasingly clear that UN officials obtain such information from government authorities. Dhlakama noted, quote, we have no reason to condemn UN officials because they are not the ones who put out such reports, unquote. He added that people who know Renamo-controlled areas will not have the courage to claim that food does not reach them because of a lack of conditions for doing so. He said, quote, many roads are now open in just about every part of the country, thus the claim that closed roads do not permit the distribution of goods is nothing but pure lies, unquote.

Renamo leader Dhlakama also noted that international organizations must review their performance in the Mozambican peace process so far because it is well known that large quantities of grain arrive in Mozambique daily and are intended for people in need.

UN's Ajello Notes Renamo To Return To Peace Commissions

MB2603140593 Maputo Radio Mozambique Network in Portuguese 1030 GMT 26 Mar 93

[Text] As usual on Fridays, Aldo Ajello, special interim representative for the UN secretary general, gave a news conference in Maputo this morning, during which he discussed the latest developments in the Mozambican peace process.

Aldo Ajello said that the Mozambique National Resistance [Renamo] delegation to the Supervision and Control Commission will return early next week. Ajello said he had indications that the process could resume shortly. He said that progress has been made in ending the current impasse. He added: What I regard as important is that despite the impasse, I cannot see anything that may threaten the process as a whole.

Commenting on recent reports disseminated by the BBC, according to which Renamo was willing to go back to the bush, Ajello said that the reports are completely inconsistent and contradict the measures that the Renamo leader has taken in order to transform his organization into a political party.

Asked to comment on whether the United Nations had ways of penalizing either Renamo or the government, Ajello said that the UN's mission is not to penalize or impose conditions, but one of facilitating the peace process. He said: It is not a question of applying sanctions, but of convincing people.

The UN official said that he has plans to meet with President Joaquim Chissano and Renamo leader Afonso Dhlakama shortly.

Asked to comment on whether Zimbabwean troops will withdraw from Mozambique on 8 April, Ajello said he could not confirm the date, adding that it all depends on the deployment of the Italian contingent along the Beira corridor. Still on the question of the Italian contingent, Ajello said that the 1,300-man battalion [as heard] will be deployed within the next four to five days. Aldo Ajello said that the Botswana battalion will arrive in Mozambique by 15 April, while the Uruguayan battalion will arrive late in April. The five battalions provided for in the accord will be in place during May. Aldo Ajello said that then it will not be possible to blame the United Nations for any delays.

Aldo Ajello said that he was working with the government to draw a basic agreement outlining the methods and procedures that will be accepted by the two sides, regarding the UN presence in Mozambique. He said: That will greatly simplify our tasks because right now we have to request permission for everything we do.

Asked to comment on the fact that Jonas Savimbi had publicly acknowledged that he had kept 20,000 in hiding and whether the possibility existed of such a situation being repeated in Mozambique, Ajello said that in Angola the United Nations only had a few military observers, while in Mozambique it has five battalions. According to Ajello, it is difficult to hide so many men with so many people observing the situation.

Commenting on the minute of the Electoral Law that this afternoon the government will present to the political parties, Aldo Ajello said that it is an important step forward in that once the law is approved, an electoral commission will be appointed and the election campaign will be launched.

Machungo, Opposition Parties Discuss Electoral Law

MB2703180593 Maputo Radio Maputo in English 1100 GMT 27 Mar 93

[Text] The prime minister of Mozambique, Mario Machungo, yesterday [26 March] presented his government's draft electoral law to a meeting attended by the country's political parties in Maputo.

Mr. Machungo pointed out that some of the principles of the law, such as the use of proportional representation, cannot be changed because they are included in the October peace agreement signed between the government and Mozambique National Resistance [Renamo] in Rome. The Mozambican Parliament has already voted on two of the Mozambican [words indistinct] (?book), but many of the (?items) of the extremely long law, which occupies 83 (?long) typed pages, are up for discussion among the political parties.

Speaking to participants at the meeting, the prime minister ruled a distinction between ending the war and building the peace. He said it took just two forces to stop the war, but it will take many more to build the peace. Mr. Machungo said political parties have a key role to play as representatives of the social groups and were responsible for the broad participation of the social strata at the various levels of decision-making.

Yesterday's meeting was to discuss exactly how the consultation between the government and the parties on the law is to take place. This consultation is a legal necessity emerging from the text of the peace agreement.

This was the first time that a formal meeting has been held between the government and the entire range of opposition parties in Mozambique.

Parties Seek More Time

MB2703095993 Maputo Radio Mozambique Network in Portuguese 0500 GMT 27 Mar 93

[Text] In Maputo yesterday, a number of emergent political parties attended a meeting on the draft electoral law, which the Council of Ministers approved recently. Representatives of those parties expressed the opinion that the consultation meeting the government intends to hold in mid-April will not give emergent parties the time to reflect in depth about the draft electoral law.

Prime Minister Mario Machungo noted that national reconciliation and the consolidation of peace were some of the issues raised at that meeting, which he chaired yesterday.

Namibia

Defense Force, Botswana's BDF Set Up Working Arrangement

MB2603200493 Johannesburg SAPA in English 1603 GMT 26 Mar 93

[Text] Windhoek Mar 26 SAPA—Heads of the Namibian Defence Force [NDF] and Botswana Defence Force [BDF] met this week "to establish firm and co-operative working arrangements" between both forces, according to a joint communique issued in Windhoek on Friday [26 March].

"These build on the friendly relationship already established between our two countries by our respective heads of state," Lt-Gen S K I Khama of Botswana and Lt-Gen J D Hamaambo said in the communique. Lt-Gen Khama arrived in Namibia on Monday for a week-long visit.

"We considered that a fundamental principle of our relationship should be that regular and open contacts should be maintained at all levels to develop an atmosphere of mutual trust and understanding.

"We agreed that it would be appropriate for us to exchange military officers for limited periods of time as a means of learning from each other's practical experience," the communique said, adding regular sporting contacts were also being considered.

"At the operational level, we agreed that in the interests of transparency and confidence building we should facilitate regular meetings between local commanders," the communique said. "This would include reciprocal visits to military sites.

"We will also enhance the already existing arrangements for the exchange of military information."

The communique said a joint mechanism was to be established to investigate and resolve "unwelcome incidents" on or near Namibia and Botswana's shared border.

"An important part of this mechanism will be the establishment of radio communication links between the NDF and BDF."

Swaziland

Humaras Calls For Lifting of State of Emergency

MB2903103593 Mbabane THE TIMES OF SWAZILAND in English 29 Mar 93 p 1

[Report by Nimrod Mabuza: "Elections Won't Be Fair—Humaras"]

[Text] The Human Rights Association of Swaziland (Humaras) said there cannot be free and fair elections in Swaziland as long as the state of emergency is still intact.

Humaras Secretary General, Mr Vusi Masuku said the arrest of Pudemo [People's United Democratic Movement] members last weekend who were en route to a rally at Nkhataba ably demonstrates its conviction.

Mr Masuku said for free and fair elections to take place in the country, all repressive laws should be removed.

He said people arrested and charged under laws provided for under the State of Emergency should be set free and charges withdrawn.

This is the first response from Humaras since police stopped a Pudemo rally at Nkhataba.

Police stopped the rally for fear that there will be bloodshed following manoeuvres by chief of Nkhataba, Prince Bhekimpfi.

Prince Bhekimpfi had threatened to fight Pudemo members should they "invade" his area.

Mr Masuku said Humaras is also concerned with the stand taken by representative of foreign governments.

He said these representatives have endorsed the support of the coming election.

"These representatives suggest that these elections will bring meaningful change in Swaziland, in that the citizens shall democratically choose their government," he said.

He said Humaras questions this endorsement because Swaziland is ruled under a state of emergency.

Mr Masuku said citizens are denied the right to freely assemble and discuss their views.

He said what guarantee is there that their concerns shall be represented and addressed by the government?

Mr Masuku also appealed to government to urgently take an active and protective role in the current process of change.

He said silence by the government creates an unnecessary division between the citizens.

Zimbabwe

Government Sets Up Extradition Agreement With Namibia

MB2603201893 Johannesburg SAPA in English 1815
GMT 26 Mar 93

[Text] Harare Mar 26 SAPA—Zimbabwe and Namibia have established an extradition agreement, according to a government gazette released in Harare on Friday [26 March]. Namibian authorities will now arrest and return any fugitive when the Zimbabwean Government demands, the ZIANA national news agency reports.

Liberia

Taylor Says No Preconditions for Conflict Resolution

AB2603143793 Gbarnga Radio ELBC in English 0700
GMT 26 Mar 93

[Text] President Charles Gankay Taylor says he is putting forward no preconditions to the resolution of the Liberian conflict. He said putting forward preconditions to a negotiated settlement to the Liberian conflict could be interpreted by detractors as obstacles in the way to peace in Liberia. President Taylor told a news interview that it would be proper for Liberians themselves to get together and work out a negotiated settlement to the conflict. He regretted that Nigerian President Ibrahim Babangida was preventing Liberians from getting together to talk. He said Babangida is using the Liberian conflict as a cover-up for his hideous skeletons in the closet.

The NPRA [National Patriotic Reconstruction Assembly] Government has continuously said it is open to dialogue with all Liberians without preconditions, but Amos Sawyer of the Monrovia group says he has nothing to discuss with the NPRA Government except disarmament and encampment are carried out by the present Nigeria-led mercenary group ECOMOG [Economic Community of West African States Cease-Fire Monitoring Group]. [sentence as heard] The NPRA Government has maintained that it would not disarm to the present configuration of ECOMOG, which has been bombing and killing Liberians in hospitals, schools, churches, market places, and other civilian quarters.

Taylor Alleges 'Conspiracy' To Eliminate AFL, ULIMO

AB2603175093 Gbarnga Radio ELBC in English 0700
GMT 26 Mar 93

[Text] Classified intelligence reports have revealed that the recent ambush and subsequent murder of the AFL [Armed Forces of Liberia] chief of staff in Monrovia, General Hezekiah Bowen, was carried out by ECOMOG [Economic Community of West African States Cease-Fire Monitoring Group] in line with a planned conspiracy by Amos Sawyer to systematically wipe out the AFL. President Taylor told journalists in Gbarnga on Wednesday [24 March] that he has indisputable evidence that Sawyer and ECOMOG have embarked on a plan to destroy the AFL in order to install the Black Berets as his trusted army.

Mr. Taylor said under the conspiracy by IGNU [Interim Government of National Unity], ULIMO [United Liberation Movement for Democracy in Liberia] is also a target and pressure is being applied on ULIMO to create the condition for its subsequent elimination after crashing the AFL out. [Word indistinct] Harry Nayou

[ULIMO vice president] is singled out as one of those to be eliminated by Sawyer. The Liberian leader said already two top officials of the AFL, General Hezekiah Bowen, and the deputy chief of staff of the Monrovia group, General Moses Wright, have been set up, leaving one dead and the other seriously wounded in an ambush.

Sawyer's conspiracy coincides with news of an attempted coup plot in Monrovia to unseat his administration. The incident is now being followed by several arrests of Krahn elements in Monrovia, particularly in the AFL and ULIMO, which is being (?forcefully) disarmed by ECOMOG. Referring to his intelligence sources, President Taylor said the situation in Monrovia right now is very explosive and could develop into a major war between and amongst the various armed groups in that city.

Asked whether he supports the elimination of the various armed groups against the NPFL [National Patriotic Front of Liberia] to be crashed by ECOMOG, President Taylor said he does not believe in the elimination of any group of Liberians. The president said he stands ready to receive the AFL or ULIMO, just as he did in the case of the INPFL [Independent NPFL], and as soon as the AFL realize that he is their hope against the present conspiracy being perpetrated against them by ECOMOG and the Sawyer group the sooner they could save themselves.

At the same time, in an attempt to get a hold on the decaying political developments in Monrovia involving armed factions, the head of the Monrovia group, Amos Sawyer, has been visiting Freetown, Sierra Leone. This comes in the wake of attempts by ULIMO to overthrow him. ULIMO is refusing to cooperate with the Sawyer group in turning over territories given it by ECOMOG.

Sawyer Directs Defense Ministry To Restrict Purview

AB2703122093 Monrovia Radio ELBC in English 0900
GMT 27 Mar 93

[Text] The interim president, Amos Sawyer, has directed the Ministry of National Defense to stop making publications in the press on matters of government outside its prerogatives. An Executive Mansion release says the interim government takes very seriously the intervention of the Armed Forces of Liberia [AFL] in foreign policy matters. In a letter to the defense minister, according to the release, Dr. Sawyer pointed out that the AFL is neither autonomous nor responsible for foreign policy matters. The president has, therefore, advised the minister to transmit the directive to the chief of staff of the AFL and his men, and stressed that serious disciplinary measures will be taken if the directive is not heeded. The AFL, through its Public Affairs Bureau, has been publishing articles in local dailies on matters of government and foreign policy.

ECOMOG Attempts To Disarm ULIMO in Monrovia*AB2803175093 Paris AFP in English 1523 GMT
28 Mar 93*

[Excerpts] Monrovia, March 28 (AFP) - The West African Force in Liberia, ECOMOG [Economic Community of West African States Cease-Fire Monitoring Group], Saturday [27 March] got tough by beginning the forced disarming of United Liberation Movement for Democracy in Liberia (ULIMO) fighters roaming Monrovia.

An ECOMOG helicopter flew over Monrovia for several hours while ECOMOG troops combed the city for armed ULIMO men.

Large convoys of military vehicles also drove ECOMOG troops throughout the city after rumours that some ULIMO troops planned resisting the order.

ECOMOG troops searched all vehicles at checkpoints and street corners, seizing arms and ammunition.

The high command of ECOMOG could not give the quantity of arms collected so far, but said the move was in line with "speeding up" the disarming of all warring factions in Liberia. [passage omitted]

Liberia's interim President Amos Sawyer Monday told journalists he had received "several complaints that ULIMO fighters masquerade in Monrovia with looted goods" and said the ECOMOG would be ordered to disarm them in the city.

He said the government would "not be in the business of breaking the intransigence of the NPFL's meeting the demands of the people for the establishment of civil authority and have others doing something different." [passage omitted]

Mali**President Konare Delivers Anniversary Speech***AB2803183093 Bamako Radiodiffusion-Television du Mali Radio in French 2000 GMT 25 Mar 93*

[Speech by President Alpha Oumar Konare in Bamako on 25 March—live]

[Text] Dear countrymen: A day of glory, 26 March is also a day of remembrance. Malians will always remember that on that day the will of a people united and on its feet triumphed over the destructive force of an inimical system—a day of remembrance, but also one of memory of gratitude and humility. Malians will forever cherish the memory of all those who did not see the (?dawn) of 26 March and who went to sleep forever on the battlefield of honor—untimely snatched away in the prime of

their lives—in order that this day could come. It is a day of gratitude to the martyrs of 1991 and humility for we ourselves who survived, in order that at all times we may remember the ideals of a struggle and the exigencies of building a democratic state.

Dear countrymen, we must once more recall to mind the struggle of our underground organizations for decades, the struggle of the democratic organizations since the formation of the National Committee for Democratic Initiative, the Alliance for Democracy in Mali, the Association of Malian Students and Pupils, and the youth organizations—the (?HDP), the (?GLU) [expansions unknown]—and the full commitment of the Malian Association for Human Rights, the Malian Bar Association, and the National Union of Mali Workers, with a singleness of purpose: secure greater freedom for the Malian people and take part in establishing the fundamental (?rights) of Mali of citizens like the freedom of expression and political association.

The intransigence of the government of the day led to a radicalization of the Malian people's struggle, pushing it to accept and to make every sacrifice, including the sacrifice of blood and of (?honor). It was the struggle of the people, a people who love peace, tranquility, and serenity. They abhor all that is immoderate. The fact remains that Malians today have a desire to build through their own toil a prosperous country, doing so in concord, tolerance, and brotherhood. Finally, the fact remains that this objective, in order to be achieved, requires that the citizenry as a whole accept the bases of a reflection and an action based on consensus. Each and everyone of us must accept to play our (?part) in the concert of the new Mali in order that, at last, the reforms and changes for which we fought and which we look forward to with hope and impatience—something I do perfectly understand—may materialize.

These reforms and changes for a better well-being alone justify our struggle and form the basis of our hopes and aspirations. It is only in this way that we can give our democracy any chance to consolidate itself in order to confer on our country the image of an exemplary country worthy of the esteem and respect of the international community.

Dear countrymen, I wish you a happy 26 March anniversary. May the ideal of 26 March triumph for eternity.

Article Notes Inter-Tuareg Clashes, Effect on Pact*AB2703120093 Bamako LE REPUBLICAIN in French
10 Mar 93 p 8*

[By Beydi Haidara]

[Excerpts] Niger's prime minister has just concluded a 24-hour working visit to Mali at the very time when our country seems to have been overtaken by the Niger syndrome: bickering between Arabs and Tuaregs stemming from economic interests.

In Niger, hostilities between (Arab) Touaj and Tuaregs grow bitter every day because trade between Niger and Algeria, over which the Touaj have a monopoly, has

been disrupted for three years now because of the Tuareg rebellion. So, the Arab Touaj commit excesses against the Tuaregs, even to the point of chasing them onto Malian territory.

The incident between Malian and Niger patrol teams in Fanfi on 18 February is still fresh in our mind. The casualty report was quite heavy: six Niger citizens and one Malian killed. Also, according to AFP, one of the two recent Tuareg rebel attacks in Niger, which left four dead, has officially been blamed on Malian Tuaregs.

But this is only one result of the situation in Niger. In fact, the growing acrimony in Mali is assuming disturbing proportions in the sense that it involves political and military groups, notably the Islamic Arab Front of the Azawad (FIAA) and the Popular Liberation Front of the Azawad (FPLA). These few examples illustrate how high the tension is between Arab and Tuareg groups, a situation which could dangerously compromise the implementation of the National Pact, if care is not taken.

At about 10.00 AM on 21 February, FIAA patrolmen who were chasing some bandits between Lere and Lerneb clashed with FPLA fighters. Eight people were killed on the FPLA side while one was wounded on FIAA side. The injured man is Mohamed Abdelrahmane, a member of FIAA command who shot in the arm. [passage omitted]

On Tuesday 23 February, the vice chairman of the MFUA [Unified Fronts and Movements of the Azawad], Aghabam Ag Alassane, who was on a mission with the speaker of the national assembly, led a convoy bound to Taikharene, where he was to meet Rhissa Ag Sidi Mohamed to try and convince the intractable FPLA leader. The convoy was intercepted by FIAA fighters who released Aghabam Ag Alassane but fled with the vehicle and its remaining occupants, including six members of the Revolutionary Army for the Liberation of Azawad (ARLA) and four FPLA members. They are reportedly being detained either at Almoustarat, at Tangara or at the FLAA military base on the Algerian border.

Zahabi Ould Sid Mohamed, the head of MFUA, who has just returned from a mission to Gao, is reported to have stated his intention to resign at meeting in the Askia city from his post of deputy government representative for northern Mali in order to join the FIAA command.

According to the same sources, the reasons given for this were that modalities for the integration of 600 Tuareg fighters do not favor the FIAA. When contacted for comments, neither Iyad Agali of the Popular Movement of the Azawad (MPA) nor an official of the government department responsible for northern Mali could confirm this.

Not quite long ago, Boide, an Arab trader, was kidnapped in front of his shop. After he had been killed, his corpse was later dumped in a well. Boide is said to have been an FIAA financier and at his funeral, a Tuareg

called Hawado, a high school teacher, was stabbed. The victim, currently being treated in Bamako, is reportedly the uncle of Zeinade Sid Ahmad, MFUA's public relations officer. At the origin of these clashes is an old ethnic rivalry between Arabs and Tamasheqs revived by the Niger crisis and conflicts of interests. Let us hope that MFUA leadership will take the necessary measures to stop this potentially dangerous situation.

Since 7 February we have been witnessing the deployment of government soldiers and MFUA fighters to the north. These soldiers are being deployed, first, to beef up the number of existing patrol teams (in Lere, Timbuktu, Gossi, Meneka) from 21 to 61 men, and second, to help set up six new patrol groups (in Tonka, Ansongo, In-Tilit, Kidal, Tessalit, Almoustarat).

Each patrol group has 61 men (31 regular army soldiers, 30 MFUA men, and one Algerian mediator).

Forty-two vehicles donated by France will be added to 10 others that are already operating on the terrain.

Niger

Presidential Elections Begin; Ousmane Leads

AB2803133593 Niamey Voix du Sahel Network in French 1200 GMT 28 Mar 93

[Excerpt] Presidential election, this is the main interest in the country this Sunday, 28 March. It appears the die is cast—Mahamane Ousmane is in a comfortable lead in the presidential race. Since 27 March, the Niamey sports complex, the vote counting center for the second round of the presidential election, has been gripped by the fever of election figures, figures which have delivered their verdict—victory for change. The official partial results released by the National Commission for Monitoring and Supervising Elections [COSUPEL] credits the Democratic and Social Convention [CDS] candidate with 54.99 percent of valid votes cast, compared with 45 percent by the leader of the National Movement of the Development Society. These results, it should be pointed out, are based on 75 percent of the number of registered voters. The latest results are beginning to fall or are expected. But, at any rate, the trend will not be reversed. From the Niamey sports complex, correspondent Omabe reports on the situation:

[Omabe] Yes, Moussa Amame, there is no doubt now because things are as good as settled, as the saying goes. The CDS candidate, Mr. Mahamane Ousmane, supported by the Alliance of Forces of Change, will be Niger's next president. Indeed, in light of results recorded here at the Niamey sports complex so far by the National Electoral Commission and COSUPEL, Mr. Ousmane has a comfortable lead with 54 to 55 percent of the votes cast, and as of now no significant figures are left to be recorded here. For all these details, we have with us here Mr. Idrissa Abdou, CONSUPEL member:

[Abdou] Thank you, Mr. Omabe. The latest checking was done at 1211 [1111 GMT]. This checking is based on 99.27 percent of the electoral college. Out of 4,190,449 registered, 1,418,720 people have cast their votes, with 30,313 invalid ballot papers and 1,386,407 valid papers. The turnout rate is 35.30 percent. Mr. Mahamane Ousmane scored 756,146 votes, that is 54.46 percent. Mr. Mamadou Tandja had 632,261 votes, that is 45.54 percent. To repeat, Mahamane Ousmane: 756,146 votes or 54.46 percent. Mamadou Tandja, 632,261 votes or 45.54 percent. [passage omitted]

Ousmane Claims Victory

AB2803220093 Niamey Voix du Sahel Network in French 1900 GMT 28 Mar 93

[Text] The president-elect, Mahamane Ousmane, gave his first reaction this afternoon at a ceremony that brought together the new president and leaders of the Alliance of Forces of Change [AFC] and several supporters and sympathizers of the Alliance. After highlighting the importance of the date, 27 March 1992 [as heard], Mr. Mahamane Ousmane promised to be the president of all Niger citizens, adding: The victory is first of all, that of the Niger people. Here is his statement recorded by Adamou Oumarou:

[Begin Ousmane recording] Fellow Niger citizens and dear countrymen, the verdict of the polls is known. The date, 27 March 1993, will forever be engraved in the memory of the Niger people and will be written in golden letters in the annals of the history of Niger. This historic date marks the Third Republic of Niger and establishes in our country a genuine democracy which henceforth imposes on all citizens the strict respect of the democratic game and the laws of the Republic. This victory is the outcome of a process resolutely undertaken by the active forces of the nation who aspire for change and free expression of ideas and opinions in conformity with the rule of law.

This victory is also that of all the supporters and sympathizers of Democratic and Social Convention [CDS]-Rahama whose abnegation, strength, and unflinching loyalty have been able to place their party at a victorious position. We also owe this resounding victory to the supporters and sympathizers of the AFC who, thanks to their determination and their adherence to the ideals of change, were able to transcend their specificity and come out to engage in the same struggle. To all these democratic forces and to all those who directly or indirectly contributed to this resounding victory, I express my sincere and fraternal thanks and I take this solemn occasion to express by deepest gratitude.

To Mr. Mamadou Tandja and supporters of his party, they should know that the only winner today is the Niger people. I want to assure all my countrymen that I am and will remain the president of all Niger citizens, of all those who voted for me as well as those who did not vote for me. The deep conviction that I share with the entire forces of change is that nothing solid can be achieved

without unity and cohesion of Niger citizens in spite of the divergence of ideas, thought, and all sorts of diversities which, in any case are enriching.

To our brothers in rebellion, they should know that a new page in the history of Niger has been turned, and we hope that they will associate themselves with the era of restoration of peace and national reconstruction. To leaders of the organs of the transitional period, especially the president of the Republic, the chairman of the High Council of the Republic, and the prime minister, we send our warmest congratulations for leading the democratic process calmly to its end.

To friendly countries, to international institutions and organizations who did not spare human and technical resources for the success of the various electoral process, the whole Niger people, through me, express their deepest gratitude.

Thank you. [end recording]

Turnout Reportedly Low

AB2703214593

[Editorial Report] Niamey Voix du Sahel Network in French at 1900 GMT on 27 March, leads its newscast with a report on the second round of the presidential elections that opened in the morning. The announcer says: "Five million Niger voters were supposed to have gone to the polls this morning to elect the first president of the Third Republic. They were to choose between Mr. Mamadou Ousmane of the Democratic and Social Convention-Rahama and Mr. Tandja Mamadou of the National Movement of the Development Society-Nassara." Various correspondents from the regional capitals of Tawa, Maradi, Dosso, and Diffa reported that voting proceeded smoothly without any major incidents, but turnout was generally low. Announcer concludes report by saying that "this low turnout in most parts of the country (?will undoubtedly) have some repercussions on the next president's term of office."

Togo

Group Claims Responsibility for Attack on Camp

AB2603163493 London BBC World Service in English 1515 GMT 26 Mar 92

[From the "Focus on Africa" program]

[Text] Lome, the Togo capital, is still reeling from yesterday's shootout at the military residence of President Eyadema. In a gun battle in the early hours, two top Army chiefs were killed and President Eyadema himself apparently had a narrow escape. Togo's borders with neighboring Benin and Ghana were closed to avail the accusations that Ghana had been somehow involved in the raid. They were denied by the Ghana Government. And a curfew has been imposed in Lome. But there is still a lot of mystery about who was involved in the

attack, with the opposition insisting they had nothing to do with it. However, our correspondent in Accra, Ben Ephson, thinks he has an inkling. He telexed us this report:

[Begin studio announcer recording] Yesterday, I got a phone call from someone who said he knew a lot about the attempt on President Eyadema's house. He said he would be happy to meet me at the Aflao border post with Togo this morning. I got there at 5 a.m. and met a well-built man in his early thirties. He looked Togolese. He refused to give me his name and spoke in French and, through an interpreter, this is the story he told me:

He said that a group of them numbering 33 made up of Togolese youths and Togolese soldiers, had planned to kidnap President Eyadema. But he said their plan fell through because he believed they were betrayed by a Togolese youth leader who they thought was on their side. He said that when they arrived at the camp where Eyadema's residence was, they knew they must have been betrayed because the area was in total darkness—an unusual situation. But since they were already there, they decided to go ahead, anyway. They entered the camp easily and only one man fired back at them. They placed plastic explosives and started shooting and, according to them, at least 50 soldiers were killed.

He said that their group of 33 made up of 10 soldiers and 23 civilians, had three targets. One group attacked Eyadema's camp, the second the state radio station, and the third the Adidome Camp in northern Lome. He insisted that his group did not kill Eyadema's chief of staff, General Ameji, nor his deputy, Colonel Tepe. He said that the group knew where the general lived and there was no shooting there. His belief was that he had been killed by President Eyadema's people themselves because both men were southerners. He denied, though, that the struggle was between Ewes and Kabyses. According to him, the officer who led their attack was a Kabye and the majority of the other officers were from northern Togo.

He admitted that a few Togolese refugees in Ghana had joined their group, but the bulk, he insisted, came from within Togo. He said that neither the Ghanaian Government nor the formal Togolese opposition knew anything about them. As we shook hands and he left across the bush path back into Togo, he said that next time Eyadema would not escape. His last words to me were Eyadema will have to accept the democratization process or he will be killed. [end recording]

Foreign Minister Says Opposition Behind Operation

LD2603133393 Paris Radio France International in French 1230 GMT 26 Mar 93

[Excerpts] The situation is calm in Togo this Friday after the first night of curfew. [passage omitted]

Togolese Foreign Minister Ouattara Natchaba has been in Paris since yesterday. Assane Diop asked him

whether, according to him, a neighboring country, that is Ghana, can be involved in this affair. Listen to his answer:

[Begin Ouattara recording] Since the start of the affair and until now, no one, including I myself as foreign minister, has said anything of the sort. No one has suggested that Ghana or another country are involved. What we said from the beginning is that it is an operation led by the opposition. It is a terrorist operation led by the opposition. And when one looks at the composition of this so-called radical opposition, one cannot be surprised by the fact that it came from them. They are people who do not want to go to the elections. They want power without going to the elections. They want to be brought to Lome; they want Eyadema be ousted and power to be given to them. Things are not done in this way. [end recording]

Eyadema, Koffigoh Meet; Reactions to Attack Noted

AB2603153393 Kara Radio Kara in French 1300 GMT 26 Mar 93

[Excerpts] General Gnassingbe Eyadema and Prime Minister Kokou Koffigoh held discussions in Lome on the morning of 25 March. The four-hour discussions focused on security problems in the country, and with reason too: Lome, the capital, was shaken by a shoot-out around 0300 on 25 March. Foreign armed forces tried to attack the Togolese Interarms 1st Regiment Camp, the broadcasting center, and certain facilities at the 2 Fevrier Hotel. [passage omitted]

We have received reactions to the 25 March attack in Lome. The youth wing of the Rally of the Togolese People strongly condemns the Collective of Democratic Opposition II's [COD-II] irresponsible action. This once more disrupts economic activity in the country, which was picking up. We also received a statement from the Coordinating Committee in the Struggle for Renewal [COFOR] today, saying it was greatly shocked to hear of the 25 March attack on the Togolese Interarms Regiment, during which two Army officers, General Ameji and Colonel Tepe were unfortunately killed.

COFOR denounces these criminal acts and holds COD-II responsible for them. COD-II will resort to every method except the ballot box to gain power. COFOR extends its condolences to the bereaved families and the Army, whom it calls upon to do everything possible to prevent all those wishing to cause divisions within the Army from doing so.

Curfew Continues; Airport, Port Reopen

AB2603221993 Lome Radio Lome in French 2200 GMT 26 Mar 93

[Text] Life has resumed its normal course in Lome, 48 hours after the shooting at the residence of President Gnassingbe Eyadema. The city became calm after the curfew imposed by the authorities. Already today, the curfew has been brought from 2200 to 0600 GMT.

The minister of commerce and transportation, on his part, has announced in a communique that contrary to rumors that have been spread, the airport and harbor of Lome have reopened to users.

Captured Weapons Displayed to Media

*AB2703201593 Kara Radio Kara in French 1300 GMT
27 Mar 93*

[Text] The arms and ammunition seized from the assailants on the night of 23 March [as heard] were displayed this morning to the local and foreign press at the National Gendarmerie in the presence of Gendarmerie Commander (Walla Cisinne). A lot of ammunition, military outfits, and arms were abandoned or hidden in the lagoon. The weapons displayed included G-3 rockets [as heard], one machine gun, an AK-47, grenades, as well

as some cartridges, ammunition, and loaders. A lot of ammunition in a box was seized from a young man at Amoutive.

At the Interarms Regiment Camp, details of the attack and how the assailants invaded the premises were given: A group of assailants in a Peugeot pickup with Togolese Armed Forces colors, which may have eluded the vigilance of the guard, entered from the eastern end. Meanwhile, at the southern end, another contingent, after cutting through the barbed wire surrounding the camp, headed directly towards the senior officer quarters, where the head of state also lives. Gunshots rang out and three rockets were fired at the president's residence, leaving marks on the walls on the south side. It should be noted that officers' residences near the president's were badly damaged in these attacks, which resulted in the deaths of General Ameji and Colonel Tepe and in one other person being seriously wounded.

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